#### Fed policy moves

The Federal Reserve planning tighter interest-rate policies. NEWS, PAGE 10

#### **Surgery for Bueckers**

UConn standout Paige Bueckers undergoes knee surgery. SPORTS, PAGE 1

#### **Increasing cloudiness**



A late shower is possible; high of 46. SPORTS, PAGE 6

## Hartford Courant

COURANT.COM **VOLUME CLXXXV WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021** 

**CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT** 

# Many struggle to find at-home tests

and gatherings on tap, shelves often are empty

**By Eliza Fawcett** and Alex Putterman Hartford Courant

As end-of-year holidays approach and Connecticut faces a surge of COVID-19 cases, many residents are seeking out at-home

With COVID-19 surging COVID-19 tests — but finding them hard to come by.

> Southington resident Shannon King, 28, was getting past a minor cold last week and wanted to be sure she didn't have COVID-19 before seeing family members over the weekend. She started by looking for rapid-results testing sites near her home but had no luck, as the soonest available appointments were several days

She then turned her attention to at-home tests, which have become increasingly popular due to their accessibility and ease of use. She'd heard they were available at most drugstores and had seen that some local pharmacies advertised online that they were in stock.

But finding a test wasn't easy. One pharmacy told her that the tests were out of stock at that loca-

Turn to Tests, Page 2



Boxes of **BinaxNow** home COVID-19 tests made by Abbott are shown for sale Monday at a CVS in Lakewood, Washington. TED S.

WARREN/AP



A church steeple towers above a historic home in Hartford's Asylum Hill neighborhood that has been converted to workforce housing by Chrysalis Center's real estate development company. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

# OPENING DOORS

Four renovated historic properties in Hartford's Asylum Hill are set to welcome first tenants; developer envisions 'buzzing neighborhood'

By Kenneth R. Gosselin | Hartford Courant

he first tenants will soon move into four renovated properties on a prominent corner in Hartford's Asylum Hill, a \$12.5 million project that initially stirred controversy but still marks another sign of revitalization in the neighborhood.

"Look at the need in Hartford," said Sharon L. Castelli, chief executive of the Hartford-based, nonprofit Chrysalis Center, its real estate arm the project's developer. "Not everything's downtown. Not everyone wants to live downtown. This is an historic area, and these just stood vacant."

Three of the four buildings at the corner of Asylum Avenue and Huntington Street — 834, 846 and 852 Asylum – were once grand homes built in the 1920s by members of the city's business elite. The project created 32 apartments -

Turn to Apartments, Page 3



Chrysalis Center CEO Sharon Castelli enters the building at 834 Asylum Ave., where renovation is wrapping up. The house is one of four buildings at the corner of Asylum Avenue and Huntington Street that will be known as "Clover Gardens."

## Courant appoints new executive editor

**Hearst Connecticut** Media leader tapped to guide newsroom

**By Stephen Singer** Hartford Courant

Tribune Publishing has appointed a veteran Connecticut journalist as executive editor of the Hartford Courant.

Helen Bennett has more

than 25 years' experience in Connecticut news media. She comes to the Courant from the New Haven Register, The Middletown Press and

Bennett

the Register Citizen, where she serves as editor. "I'm very excited about this new opportunity," Bennett said.

"I truly look forward to working with the outstanding team at the Hartford Courant. I think it will be a wonderful challenge. We'll continue to serve the people of Connecticut in the best way possi-

Group Regional Publisher Kevin Corrado said he is confident Bennett will lead the newsroom while improving upon the Courant's history of community-focused, enterprise journalism.

"I am thrilled to have Helen

on board as executive editor of the Hartford Courant," he said. "Helen has done amazing work in her tenure at Hearst Connecticut Media and I know that she will continue that at the Courant."

Bennett is "well-positioned to lead the Courant newsroom as we build our digital subscription business toward a sustainable future for our newsgathering," Corrado said. She starts Dec. 27.

Turn to Bennett, Page 2

## Correa guilty in triple murder

Faces life without possibility of release for Griswold slayings

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

A jury in New London convicted Sergio Correa of three murders and nearly a dozen other crimes Tuesday for the horrific home invasion, torture and slaughter of three members of a family in the eastern Connecticut town of Griswold after a guns-for-drugs deal fell apart.

Correa, 30, was found guilty of one of the most coldblooded crimes in recent memory and will be sentenced to life without possibility of release. Collaborating with his sister Ruth, Correa planned to swindle Matthew Lindquist, a 21-year old heroin addict, in a deal for a safe containing Lindquist's father's guns. Lindquist, who was sickened by withdrawal, backed out of the deal and tried to run off, setting off hours of horror over the night of Dec. 19 and 20, days before Christmas in 2017.

The brother and sister hacked Matthew Lindquist to death and broke into the family home where they tortured, bludgeoned and strangled parents Kenneth and Janet Lindquist before setting the house on fire and driving off with everything they could carry, including the family's Christmas presents.

Correa's monthlong trial was a succession of horrors, many of them whispered to the jury by his

Turn to Verdict, Page 2

#### Man, woman found dead in South End apartment

A young couple found dead in a home in a Hartford neighborhood Monday died in a murder-suicide, the state Office of the Chief Medical Examiner said Tuesday. Connecticut, Page 1

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#### FROM PAGE ONE

#### **Tests**

from Page 1

tion — and hard to obtain more generally.

King eventually found a few at-home tests at a local CVS (and tested negative for COVID-19), but her experience demonstrated the hassle that increasingly accompanies getting tested.

"Anyone that is seeing family or traveling or anything like that, it's definitely going to impede them," she said.

Though health experts note that rapid antigen tests tend to be less accurate than PCR tests — and therefore best used for confirming a symptomatic case of COVID-19 — the easy-to-use tests have become increasingly popular. As Connecticut faces its highest levels of **COVID-19** hospitalizations and cases in nearly a year, many residents are turning to at-home tests to enable indoor gatherings.

But rapid at-home tests remain hard to find not only in Connecticut but also in much of the country, despite pledges from the White House to make them more widely available. Earlier this fall, President Joe Biden committed to sending 280 million rapid tests to community health centers, schools and other facilities. In December, the White House announced that Americans with private health insurance would be reimbursed for the tests. Still, many American report finding it hard to buy

at-home tests — or find the cost prohibitive for regular

That reality stands in sharp contrast to some other countries, where at-home tests are far more accessible: in Germany, they can be obtained for less than \$1 per test in grocery stores; in the United Kingdom, residents can mail-order seven tests at a time, free of charge.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the highly regarded Binax-NOW at-home test was out of stock at nearly every Walgreens in the Hartford area, according to the store's website. Other brands were slightly less scarce but nonetheless unavailable at many locations.

The situation was similar at CVS, whose website reported that the tests were out of stock at most locations in the Hartford area, with some brands not even available for online order. (CVS spokesperson Tara Burke said that nationwide, the company offers four types of over-the-counter COVID-19 tests and is "well positioned and prepared to meet our customers' testing needs as we enter the holi-

day season.") Some states are making a concerted effort to make testing more widely available. In Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker announced Monday that the state will distribute 2.1 million free at-home COVID-19 tests to more than one hundred communities with the highest percentage of families living below the poverty line. The state is also negotiating the bulk purchase of tests to that other municipalities can buy them at discounted prices, using federal pandemic relief funds, according to The Boston Globe.

Gov. Ned Lamont's spokesperson Max Reiss said Tuesday that Connecticut has "not ruled out" providing additional at-home tests to residents, but that the administration is currently prioritizing expanding walk-up testing sites.

"Right now what we're focused on is providing accessible and free testing at even more sites," he said. "Currently, there are 23 state sponsored sites, which are free and easy for anybody to use, but we're looking to expand that even more, working across our spectrum of providers."

Experts say readily available COVID-19 testing is important at this stage of the pandemic for several reasons.

"First, because individuals with symptoms who are potentially contagious need to be identified so they can be treated and can isolate accordingly," said Dr. David Banach, an epidemiologist at UConn Health. "And then there's also the importance of testing in order to understand the epidemiology as we see new variants. If we don't do testing, we can't detect the variants."

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@ courant.com. Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.



Eric, Janet, Kenneth and Matthew Lindquist at a surprise party for Janet and Kennth's 25th wedding anniversary in 2014. ERIC LINDQUIST/COURTESY

#### Verdict

from Page 1

27-year-old adopted sister, who made a deal with state prosecutors to testify against Correa in exchange for a 40-year sentence and hope that she might someday get out of prison alive.

Matthew Lindquist and Correa traded hours of cellphone calls, to arrange a meeting near the Lindquist home. Ruth Correa said her brother arrived with empty bags of drugs. Matthew Lindquist, his withdrawal symptoms increasingly acute, apparently decided to back out and bolted into the woods. Correa grabbed a machete that his girlfriend kept in the car and ran him down, chopping into his skull.

A medical examiner testified that the Correa siblings stabbed and sliced Matthew Lindquist 67 times. Ruth Correa said he gurgled, sobbed and asked why they were killing him. She said he was told they would call him an ambulance, which was a lie. She said she didn't want to stab Matthew Lindquist,

but her brother made her, taking her hand and forcing her to plunge a knife into his chest. They left the body in the woods and it wasn't found for more than four months.

Ruth said the siblings then turned to the house, Sergio Correa armed with a baseball bat and she with a golf club. Their entry awakened Kenneth Lindquist. who was asleep on a couch. He ordered them to get out so Ruth said her brother attacked him with the bat. She said she could hear his skull crack. Kenneth's skull was smashed into more than 30 pieces, the prosecutors said. Ruth testified that she struck the family golden retriever dog so hard with her golf club that the club broke.

Janet Lindquist woke and rushed out from her bedroom, Ruth testified. Ruth testified that her brother ordered her to hold Janet in a bedroom. Janet cried and asked why this was happening and Ruth said she answered that it was Matthew's fault.

Eventually, Ruth said her brother locked the whimpering dog in a room, where it would soon be burned to death. Ruth said her brother stood guard over Janet while she scoured the house for things to steal, taking everything from linens to jewelry to Christmas gifts stored in a spare room. When she reached Janet's room and stole \$200 from Janet's pocketbook, Ruth said Janet was curled on a bed in a fetal position, crying uncontrollably. She said Sergio was pointing a gun at Janet.

Ruth said Sergio ordered her to kill Janet, but she refused. Ruth testified that Sergio made Janet kneel on the floor with her face against the mattress and beat her with the bat. When she did not die, Ruth testified that Sergio Correa tried to strangle her.

That failed as well, because the medical examiner determined Janet Lindquist was alive when the Correa siblings set the family house on fire in an effort to conceal evidence.

Sergio Correa was convicted of 13 of the 14 crimes with which he was charged. He was acquitted only of the felony murder of Matthew Lindquist.

#### Bennett

from Page 1

She was appointed executive editor of Digital First Media's Connecticut Group of newspapers, magazines and websites in November 2016. Bennett's previous jobs at the Register were as a reporter at the newspaper's Milford bureau, suburban editor and managing editor. A graduate of the Univer-

sity of Connecticut, she taught journalism at Southern Connecticut State University.

The Hartford Courant, the nation's oldest continuously published newspaper dating to 1764, is part of Tribune Publishing.

New York-based hedge fund Alden Global Capital, owners of MediaNews Group, purchased Tribune Publishing in May, taking the Chicago-based newspaper chain private and acquiring such major newspapers as The New York Daily News, the Courant and the Chicago Tribune.

Bennett succeeds Andrew Julien, publisher and editorin-chief who was appointed last month as executive editor of the New York Daily

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger @courant.com.

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LOTTERY

Tuesday, Dec. 14

**PLAY3 DAY PLAY4 DAY** 164 ws:5 4 0 2 8 ws: 9

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/ lotterv.

MONDAY'S LATE NUMBERS PLAY3 NIGHT

5 9 2 ws: 2 **PLAY4 NIGHT** 3 6 5 1ws: 4 CASH 5

4 5 15 16 27 LUCKY FOR LIFE 3 9 20 24 43 LB: 16

Friday's est. Lotto jackpot: \$2.5 million Tonight's est. Powerball jackpot: \$333 million

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#### FROM PAGE ONE

## Biden: US owes school shooting victims more than prayers

**By Colleen Long** and Michael Balsamo Associated Press

WASHINGTON - In a video released Tuesday, President Joe Biden spoke directly to the families of those killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School nine years ago, saying the nation owed families of mass shootings "more than our prayers. We owe them action."

"No matter how long it's been, every one of those families relives the news they got that day," Biden said in the video. "Twenty precious first-graders, six heroic educators, a lone gunman and an unconscionable act of violence. Everything changed that morning for you. And the nation was shocked."

A gunman killed 20 first-grade students and six educators inside Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecti-



President Biden marked the 2012 Sandy Hook shooting on Tuesday. EVAN VUCCI/AP

cut, on Dec. 14, 2012. The 20-year-old shooter, Adam Lanza, killed his mother at their Newtown home before the massacre, then killed himself as police arrived at the school.

Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont called for flags to be lowered to half-staff across

the state Tuesday in remembrance of the 26 people killed inside the school.

We will never forget the 20 innocent children and six devoted educators whose lives were taken all too soon that terrible morning," said Lamont, a Democrat.

Biden said it was one of the "saddest days" he and former President Barack Obama had in office. Biden said he found hope in the strength of the families and felt they could pass meaningful reform, but it came up frustratingly short.

"And it's still frustrating now, for you and me and so many others," he said, citing other mass school shootings in Parkland, Florida, and recently in Oxford, Michigan. "In countless communities across the country there's these horrific shootings and make national headlines and embarrass us as a nation."

He said such shoot-

ings happen all the time, particularly in communities of color, and there is no mention in the news.

"As a nation, we owe all these families more than our prayers, we owe them action," he said.

Biden pointed to executive action he's taken to stop the spread of so-called ghost guns and promote safe firearms storage.

He also hopes communities use some of the money from the massive spending plan to help end gun violence.

A senior White House official said Biden shared frustrations expressed by many gun violence prevention groups that Congress is acting too slowly to implement new gun legislation. The official also pointed to the administration's multifaceted approach to preventing gun violence from enforcement to addressing systemic and root causes.

So far, Justice Department strike forces focusing on gun trafficking corridors in several cities — part of the administration's comprehensive approach to combat surging gun violence — have led to the recovery of about 2,000 crime guns, the official said.

The White House withdrew its nomination in September of gun-control advocate David Chipman to run the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives after he ran into bipartisan opposition in the Senate. His nomination had stalled for months and he was widely seen as one of the administration's most contentious nominees.

The official said the administration is also working to identify another "highly qualified nominee" to run the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

But the official said the Biden administration was still doing all it can, even without a confirmed ATF director, to reduce gun violence. The official wasn't authorized to speak publicly and spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi also spoke of the measures Congress is trying to enact.

"Nearly a decade after Newtown, an average of over 100 Americans are being killed by gun violence every day, shattering families and terrorizing communities across the country," she said.

"In the memory of all those we have lost, and strengthened by our survivors' hopeful spirit, let us renew our resolve to build a world free from gun violence, so that every child may grow up safe, secure and able to reach their fulfillment."

#### **Apartments**

from Page 1

including studios, 2- and 3-bedroom units — which Castelli describes as workforce housing.

Construction on what is now called "Clover Gardens" — after a four-leaf clover and the four buildings, which share a garden on the property — began in September 2020. Work is now wrapping up, and eight leases have already been signed. The first tenants will move in beginning next

"I think this is going to be a buzzing neighborhood," Castelli said, during a tour of the properties earlier this week. "I really do."

The project turned controversial when plans first surfaced three years ago. The Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association pushed for the properties along Asylum to be renovated as single-family houses. One of the overarching goals of the neighborhood revitalization zones is to increase homeownership in Asylum Hill.

"It's still our position that we believe these buildings would have been better for another use such as homeownership because they were old classic buildings, they were of a certain architectural style and that's all gone now," David MacDonald, the association's executive director, said.

Castelli said Chrysalis responded to those concerns by changing the mix of apartments to include 2and 3-bedroom rentals, that would better fit renters with families

Chrysalis also took care to respect the architectural detail at the homes, including the Queen Anne style of 852 Asylum, Castelli said. Interior wood trim and casings were removed, numbered, stored and then set back in place, Castelli

MacDonald said the association has seen some increase in homeownership in Asylum Hill in the last decade, rising as high as 13% of the housing stock from 9%. The association would like to see the percentage rise to 22%, the overall average for the city.

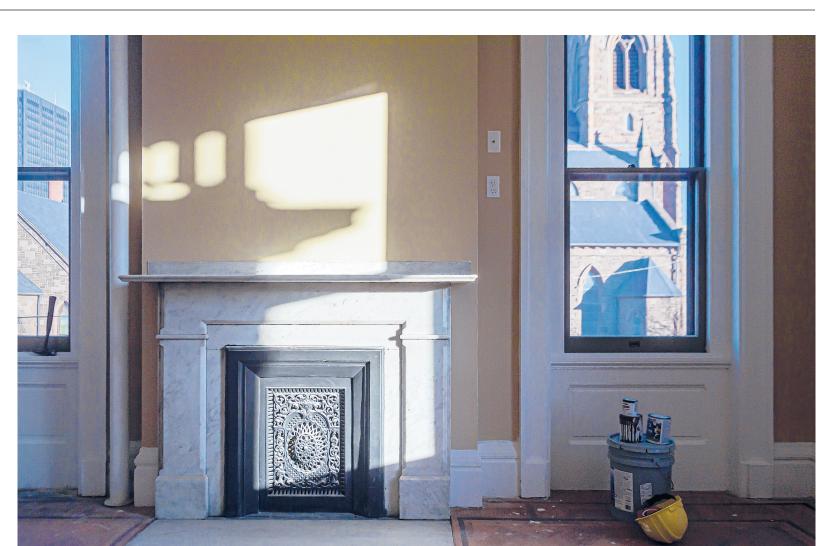
MacDonald said the Chrysalis project has gone smoothly and that the association would welcome new tenants to Asylum Hill.

"We hope they enjoy their time there and become active members of the community," MacDonald said.

Market-rate rents range from \$900 to \$1,878 for the apartments that range in size from 570 square feet to 1,372 square feet. Surface parking is included.

Of the 32 rentals, eight are set aside as "affordable" with tenant income restricted to between 30% and 80% of the area median income, or \$22,000 to \$83,440.

The four properties were purchased for about \$1.4 million. The three along



Sunlight illuminates a fireplace with a cast iron gate in one of the new apartments in a former historic home at 834 Asylum St. in Hartford, one of three built in the 1920s and now part of "Clover Gardens" in the Asylum Hill neighborhood. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT



Chrysalis Center CEO Sharon Castelli points toward the interesting architectural detail on 852 Asylum Ave., built in the Queen Anne style.

Asylum were purchased from the charter schools group Jumoke Academy, Castelli said, and the Huntington property from a separate seller.

The project included funding from the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, the state Department of Housing, city funding through the federal HOME program and historic tax credits, among others.

The designs for the apartments in the historic homes resulted in no apartment being exactly the same as another. Many have fireplaces — at least one unit has two — although they will be "nonworking,"

Castelli said. Parquet-style floors, grand sweeping staircases, stained-glass and even a butler's pantry were incorporated in the renovation. Finishes include granite



Original tile lines a fireplace in one apartment in what was built as a home for a wealthy Hartford resident in the 1920s.

countertops.

The building at 1 Huntington St., the fourth property, also dates from the 1920s but was built as an apartment with Tudor elements. It was also in the toughest shape, Castelli said.

"That was home to many prostitutes and lots of drug addicts," Castelli said. "That

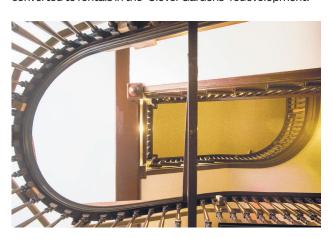
was horrible. Needles all over the ground, used condoms. The ceilings were falling down in the living rooms. It was bad, really

The property had to be basically gutted to the framing studs, Castelli said.

Castelli said she was worried about starting in



Stained glass fills the archway above a window in an apartment in a historic home built in the 1920s and now converted to rentals in the "Clover Gardens" redevelopment.



A stairwell winds through one of the historic buildings on Asylum Avenue that is now part of "Clover Gardens" in Hartford's Asylum Hill neighborhood.

the midst of the pandemic, especially since she'd had trouble getting appliances for another project in New Britain.

But the Clover Gardens project will meet a Dec. 31 completion date, required to qualify for historic tax

She isn't worried about leasing demand. Prospective renters have walked up to her with applications during daily visits to the properties.

One of those potential tenants tried handing her cash for a deposit.

"I told him, 'I'm not the property manager," Castelli said. "He said, 'I'm anxious. I work down the street. My kids. I'm ready to move in.' I tell him, You have to give the cash to the property manager.'

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@ courant.com.



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# Kentucky begins difficult recovery

Guard deployed; governor warns of higher death toll

**By Bruce Schreiner** and Claire Galofaro Associated Press

MAYFIELD, Ky. -Workers, volunteers and members of the National Guard fanned out in areas of Kentucky slammed by a series of tornadoes to begin the long process of recovery, including replacing thousands of damaged utility poles, delivering bottles of drinking water and continuing to search for the dead.

The tornado outbreak Friday that killed at least 88 people in five states -74of them in Kentucky — cut a path of devastation that stretched from Arkansas. where a nursing home was destroyed, to Illinois, where an Amazon distribution center was heavily damaged.

In Kentucky, Gov. Andy Beshear said the death toll could grow as authorities continued to work around debris that slowed recovery efforts. Nearly 450 National Guard members have been mobilized in the state, and 95 of them are searching for those presumed dead.

"With this amount of damage and rubble, it may be a week or even more before we have a final count on the number of lost lives," the governor said.

While Kentucky took the worst damage from the deadly tornado-producing storm system that slammed the region, Tennessee saw at least 11 tornadoes and four storm deaths.

On Tuesday, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee announced that President Joe Biden has granted an emergency



A sign thanking first responders is displayed Tuesday near a home that was ravaged by the tornado that struck Mayfield, Kentucky, over the weekend. JOHNNY MILANO/THE NEW YORK TIMES

declaration for nine counties in the state that suffered tornado damage.

Lee said he will seek a major disaster declaration for some counties once local officials complete their assessments of the storm damage. That declaration would make FEMA's public assistance and individual assistance programs available in the declared coun-

In Kentucky, authorities said the sheer level of destruction was hindering their ability to tally the damage. Still, efforts turned to repairing the power grid, sheltering those whose homes were destroyed and delivering supplies.

Across the state, nearly 25,000 homes and businesses were without electricity on Tuesday, down slightly from the day before, according to poweroutage. us. More than 10,000 homes and businesses had no water as of Monday, and another 17,000 are under boil-water advisories, Kentucky Emergency Management Director Michael Dossett told reporters.

A fund set up by the state collected \$6 million in donations, according to the governor. Kentucky first lady Britainy Beshear launched a Christmas toy drive for children affected

by the storm. She is asking for unwrapped toys, books, and gift cards of \$25 that will be distributed to families in

State and local officials

said it could take years for some of the hardest-hit areas to fully recover. "This again is not going to be a week or a month oper-

ation, folks. This will go on for years to come. This is a massive event," Dossett said. Five twisters hit Kentucky

in all, including one with an extraordinarily long path of about 200 miles, authorities

In addition to the deaths in Kentucky and Tennessee, the tornadoes also

Haley Conder, who worked at the Mayfield Consumer Products factory on and off for 10 years, also questioned why the company did not encourage workers to go home or at least give them a better understanding of the danger between a first tornado siren around 6 p.m. Friday and another one around 9 p.m., shortly before the tornado

storms were approaching.

"They (the company) had from 6 o'clock to 9 o'clock to allow us to go home, to tell us really what was going on and that we needed to prepare ourselves for the worst," Conder told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "It was nothing like that. Not one supervisor told us what was really going on."

Conder's comments came on the same day that Beshear said Kentucky's workplace safety agency would look into the eight deaths.

A spokesman for the company insisted that employees were free to leave anytime.

Conder, 29, said her supervisor threatened to write her up if she left early, and that accumulated write-ups can lead to firing.

More than 100 people were working on holiday candle orders when the twister leveled the facility. The scale of the damage initially stoked fears that scores of workers could be found dead in the rubble.

The company later said many employees who survived left the site and went to homes with no phone service. Since then, all workers have been accounted for, according to state and local officials who have spoken to the company.

## Data: Omicron milder, but better at evading vaccines

Findings have yet to undergo peer review process

**By Andrew Meldrum** Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG - The omicron variant is offering more hints about what it may have in store as it spreads around the globe: A highly transmissible virus that may cause less severe disease, and one that can be slowed — but not stopped by today's vaccines.

An analysis Tuesday of data from South Africa, where the new variant is driving a surge in infections, suggests the Pfizer vaccine offers less defense against infection from omicron and reduced, but still good, protection from hospitalization.

The findings are preliminary and have not been peer-reviewed — the gold standard in scientific research — but they line up with other early data about omicron's behavior, including that it seems to be more easily spread from person to

Still, some experts cautioned that it's too soon to draw conclusions since the variant is still quite new and hospitalizations can lag weeks behind infections.

When omicron reaches broader populations more useful information will emerge, said Dr. David Dowdy, an infectious disease epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

"To date, omicron has disproportionately infected young adults — people who probably have more social contacts and are more likely to attend large gatherings,' Dowdy said. Young adults may be more likely to be sick without knowing it, have more intense exposures and experience milder disease, he said.

"At the end of the day, our society needs to learn how to wait, rather than either panicking or dismissing early findings," Dowdy said.

U.S. health officials estimate that a small, but growing proportion of new COVID-19 infections are due to omicron, and that the rise is particularly dramatic in some places.

Two weeks ago, omicron accounted for less than 0.5% of the coronaviruses that were genetically sequenced in the U.S. That rose to about 3% last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Tuesday. But it varies from place

to place, and is as high as

13% in the New York/New Jersey area, according to the

agency. The CDC is tracking how fast the percentage doubles, and as more cases come in. may be better able to predict whether - or when - the omicron variant becomes the dominant version of the coronavirus in the U.S. health officials say.

In Britain, omicron cases are doubling every two to three days. Health officials say the variant will replace delta as the dominant coronavirus strain within days.

In the new South Africa findings, people who received two doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine appeared to have just 33% protection against infection, compared to those who were unvaccinated, during the country's current omicron-fueled surge, but 70% protection against hospitalization. The analysis was conducted by Discovery Health, South Africa's largest private health insurer, and the South African Medical Research Council.

The study did not look at booster shots, which are not yet prevalent in South Africa.

The Pfizer vaccine's 70% protection against hospital admission during the omicron surge compares to a



killed at least six people in

Illinois, where the Amazon

distribution center in

Edwardsville was hit; two in

Arkansas, where a nursing

The federal Occupational

home was destroyed; and

Safety and Health Adminis-

tration announced Monday

that it has opened an inves-

tigation into the collapse of

the Amazon warehouse in

Kentucky candle factory

where eight workers were

killed by a tornado said Tuesday that a supervisor

threatened her with writ-

ten disciplinary action if she

went home early because

An employee of the

two in Missouri.

Takalane Mulaudzi grimaces as she gets a COVID-19 vaccination Monday at Baragwanath hospital in Soweto, South Africa. The recently discovered omicron variant is fueling a surge in the seven-day rolling average of new cases across South Africa. JEROME DELAY/AP

93% protection level seen in South Africa's delta-driven wave, according to the new

That's a big drop in vaccine protection from severe illness requiring hospitalization, said Dr. Eric Topol, head of the Scripps Research Translational Institute.

"What we don't know yet is whether the booster will restore that back to greater than 90% and for how long," Topol said.

The analysis in South Africa was based on examining more than 211,000 COVID-19 test results that date from Sept. 1 to Dec. 7 – 41% of which were for adults who had received two doses of the Pfizer vaccine, which is the most commonly used one in South Africa.

Experts now say that omicron accounts for more than 90% of all new infections in South Africa, according to Discovery Health chief executive Dr. Ryan Noach.

Researchers around the world are rushing to figure out what the variant will mean for the coronavirus pandemic, now well into its

second year. In the weeks since the variant was detected, South Africa has experienced rapid spread of the virus. The seven-day rolling average of daily new cases in the country rose over the past two weeks from 8.07 new cases per 100,000 people on Nov. 29 to 34.37 new cases per 100,000 people on Dec. 13, according to Johns Hopkins University. The death rate hasn't increased during that same period.



Pfizer said its experimental COVID-19 pill appears effective against the recently discovered omicron variant. PFIZER

## Pfizer: Experimental COVID-19 pill promising

By Matthew Perrone Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Pfizer said Tuesday that its experimental pill to treat COVID-19 appears effective against the omicron variant.

The company also said full results of its 2,250person study confirmed the pill's promising early results against the virus: The drug reduced combined hospitalizations and deaths by about 89% among high-risk adults when taken shortly after

initial COVID-19 symptoms. Separate laboratory testing shows the drug retains its potency against

the omicron variant, the company announced, as many experts had predicted. Pfizer tested the antiviral drug against a man-made version of a key protein that omicron uses to reproduce

The updates come as COVID-19 cases, deaths and hospitalization are all rising again and the U.S. passed 800,000 pandemic deaths.

The latest surge, driven by the delta variant, is accelerating due to colder weather and more indoor gatherings, even as health officials brace for the impact of the omicron mutant.

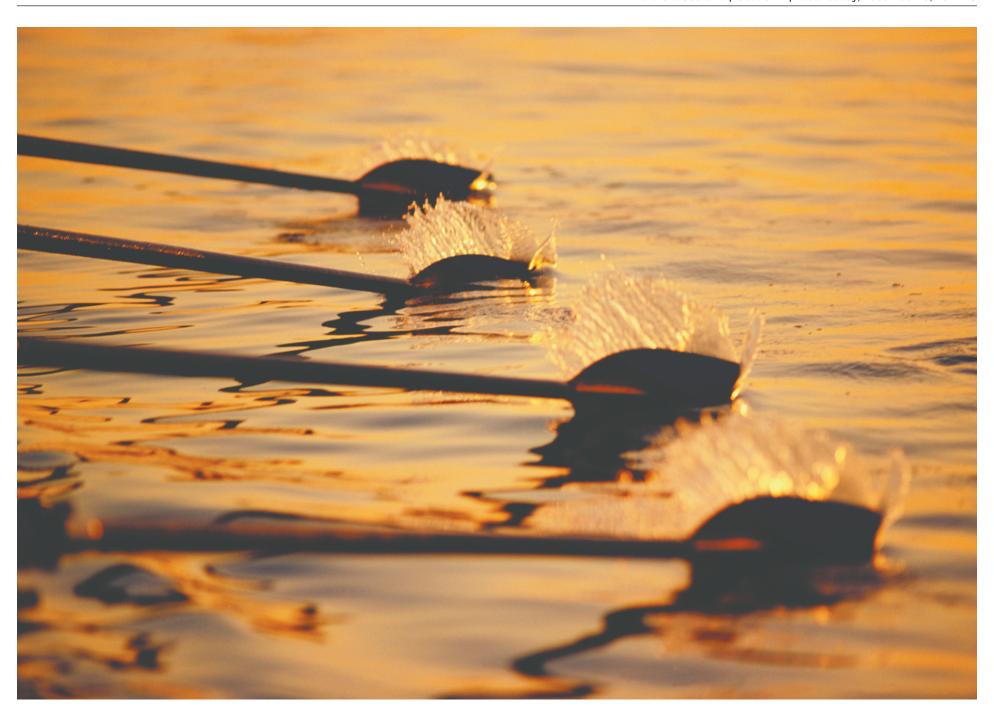
The Food and Drug Administration is expected to soon rule on whether to authorize Pfizer's pill and a competing pill from Merck, which was submitted to regulators several weeks earlier. If granted, the pills would be the first COVID-19 treatments that Americans

could pick up at a pharmacy and take at home.

Pfizer's data could help reassure regulators of its drug's benefit after Merck disclosed smaller-than-expected benefits for its drug in final testing.

Late last month, Merck said that its pill reduced hospitalizations and deaths by 30% in high-risk adults.

Both companies initially studied their drugs in unvaccinated adults. That group faces the gravest risks from COVID-19.



# Moving forward together

We've been through a lot together and have proved to be resilient. The approaching new year brings with it new possibilities to help our clients, communities and teammates move forward and prosper — safely.

Using our industry-leading digital tools, like mobile check deposits, Erica, CashPro and access to Zelle, individuals and businesses are finding it easier to do their everyday banking. Across the country, the expertise of our specialists and our teammates in financial centers is helping clients meet all their financial needs at every stage of their lives.

In our communities, we continue to collaborate with local partners, business leaders, experts and academics across the public and private sectors to fuel job growth and financial stability. More than \$400 million of our \$1.25 billion commitment to advance racial equality and economic opportunity is already supporting diverse small businesses and partners, including many recipients here in Greater Hartford who provide job skilling and hiring programs.

We've also increased resources to support our teammates' emotional and financial well-being. Recently, we raised our minimum hourly wage for U.S. employees to \$21 per hour, moving closer to our goal of \$25 by 2025.

My teammates and I look forward to growing existing partnerships and creating new ones as we work together to make a difference. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

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## **Scientists Discover a** Miracle for a Failing **Memory and It Works** in 60 Minutes

The key to saving your memory may have been found in the most unsuspecting of places – the center of a fruit almost no one has heard of.

s it possible to develop new brain cells?

The answer is "YES" according to new findings from one of the nation's leading medical schools.

They report, "in the process called neurogenesis, new brain cells develop in the brain's region responsible for learning, storing long-term memories, and even regulating emotions...

So, if you can increase the number of new brain cells even more, you can help restore these key brain functions".

Today, you can now start the process of growing new brain cells in just 60 minutes with a new pill called Cognigen.

And many believe it could be the key to saving your memory.

#### **Scientists Discover a Protein That Helps You Grow More Brain Cells**

Brain-derived neurotrophic factor, abbreviated BDNF, could be the most important protein in the body.

According to *Nature*, low levels are associated with severe memory problems like confusion, forgetfulness and fatigue.

just the opposite.

You remember people, places and things much easier. You're also more focused and alert.

And that's because BDNF is the one thing your brain needs to grow new brain shown to stimulate a 143%

AARP goes as far as saving "it's Miracle Gro" for the brain.

Better vet, it has also been shown to have a positive affect on sleep, sex, and even body weight.

#### **An Extract Found in Coffee Fruit Boosts Levels of BDNF 200%** in an Hour

Almost all of the medical community is in agreement that there are very few ingredients – man-made OR natural – that can impact blood-brain barrier. your brain.

And that's because, as took 60 minutes. the body's most precious asset, it's vigorously protected.

Your blood-brain barrier, abbreviated BBB, is the gateway between your brain and rest of the body.

So, if you want to improve your memory, you'll need to find a way through or around.

Memory Source Plus, is a natural, highly concentrated version of coffee fruit.

This unique extract has been shown to stimulate the production of BDNF sharply, within an hour, fertilizing brain cells to...

- Keep them functioning and growing
- Develop new connections
- · Activate the growth of new brain cells
- Repair faltering brain cells
- Protect healthy brain



An Effective Remedy for Forgetfulness, Confusion and Mental Decline: The new pill Cognigen contains a newlydiscovered fruit extract that increases levels of BDNF, the protein that produces brain cell growth.

#### **Your Brain Is Starved** of BDNF

Emerging research has shown that general aging, stress, and a poor diet can decrease BDNF in the brain.

This can create problems with long and short term memory, anxiousness, and even your mood.

However, boosting levels can help to overcome these problems quickly - and that all starts with coffee fruit, specifically the Memory Source Plus in Cognigen.

According to one study published in the British Journal of Nutrition, 100 mg However, high levels of of Memory Source Plus was BDNF are associated with compared to four other ingredients which could supposedly affect BDNF.

> They were green coffee bean extract, chlorogenic acid, grape seed and caf-

> Memory Source Plus was increase in BDNF in healthy humans, shocking both researchers and study partic-

The others? No statistical significance. Simply put, they had zero effect.

Maybe more impressive was a subsequent study published in Food and Nutrition Sciences.

Again, 100 mg of Memory Source Plus boosted BDNF over 200% in extracellular vesicles that have the ability to cross the

This 200% increase only

Cognigen, the new breakthrough pill for memory, includes 100 mg of Memory Source Plus, the same dosage used in these

#### Also Breaks Up Deadly **Brain Plaques That Can Impact Oxygen to Brain**

Another major benefit shown by the coffee fruit in Cognigen was its impact Supply of Cognigen please on brain plaque.

Every day since about age 20, dangerous plaque has been building up in the blood vessels of your brain.

These sticky globs of protein — called beta amyloids — are just as dangerous as arterial plaque that causes a fatal heart attack and are linked directly to advance cognitive loss.

Eventually, this brain plaque blocks blood flow to your brain and it's a real disaster.

When your brain gets inflamed and lacks oxygen from poor blood flow, your brain connections get weak or broken. You feel like your brain is in a fog, you're thinking, and recall gets slower and fuzzier.

Reflexes aren't as quick. Creativity is sapped. Your mental energy is reduced, too, so reading, driving, or mental tasks can be a bur-

It also causes angst over getting older and losing control.

The Memory Source Plus in Cognigen fights neuroinflammation helps maintain healthy cholesterol to support optimal blood flow to your brain.

It actually binds to dangerous plaque that causes advanced cognitive loss and sweeps it out of your brain's blood vessel.

#### **The One Hour Brain-Boosting Pill**

With daily use, clinical studies have found Cognigen's formula to significantly improve memory and recall with results starting in the first hour.

For those interested in trying the formula, the company is now making it more affordable than ever as a way to give back to the community which has continued to support them.

#### **Claim a Free Supply** of Cognigen - Local **Readers Only**

This is the official release of Cognigen.

As such, the company is offering Risk-Free Supplies (up to 12 bottles) to any reader who calls during its promotional period.

This promotional period starts today and will last as long as inventory. With the sell-out risk being so high, this may mean hours or a few days.

To claim your Risk-Free call 1-800-448-6123. Discounts will be automatically applied to callers who must be readers of this publication.

Consumers who miss out on our current product inventory will have to wait until more becomes available and that could take weeks and there is no guarantee this promotion will still be live.

The company advises not to wait. Call 1-800-448-6123 today.





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# House mulls charges on Meadows

Jan. 6 panel weighs criminal contempt for ex-chief of staff

By Mary Clare Jalonick and Farnoush Amiri Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House on Tuesday debated recommending criminal contempt charges against former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows after he ceased cooperating with the Jan. 6 Committee investigating the U.S. Capitol insurrection.

If approved, it would be the first time the House had voted to hold a former member in contempt since the 1830s, according to the chamber's records.

Before he left Congress to join President Donald Trump's administration, Meadows "continually insisted that people and high-ranking government officials respect the authority of Congress to do its job, and investigative powers are implicit in and intertwined with our powers to legislate this," Maryland Rep. Jamie Raskin, a member of the committee, said on the chamber floor.

Raskin began Tuesday's debate by reading frantic texts from the day of the attack revealing members of Congress, Fox News anchors and even Trump's son urging Meadows to persuade the outgoing president to act quickly to stop the siege by his supporters.

The committee voted 9-0 Monday night to recommend charges against the former North Carolina congressman who left in March 2020 to become Trump's chief of staff. Approval by the full House would refer the issue to the Justice Department, which would decide whether to prosecute.

Republicans on Tuesday called the action against Meadows a distraction from the House's work, with one member calling it "evil" and "un-American."

Trump also defended Meadows in an interview with The Associated Press, saying, "I think Mark should do what's right. He's an honorable man. He shouldn't be put through this."

Meanwhile, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky told reporters "I do think



Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., right, speaks Tuesday regarding the Jan. 6 panel's recommendation to charge Mark Meadows with criminal contempt of Congress. Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., is next to her. **STEFANI REYNOLDS/THE NEW YORK TIMES** 

we're all watching, as you are, what is unfolding on the House side. And it will be interesting to reveal all the participants who were involved."

He added that he was not in contact with Meadows on the day of the attack.

Democrats quoted at length from Jan. 6 text messages provided by Meadows while he was cooperating with the committee.

"We need an Oval Office address," Donald Trump Jr. texted, the committee said, as his father's supporters were breaking into the Capitol, sending lawmakers running for their lives and interrupting the certification of Joe Biden's presidential victory. "He has to lead now. It has gone too far and gotten out of hand."

Trump Jr. added, "He's got to

condemn this ... ASAP."
In response to one of Trump Jr.'s

texts, Meadows said: "I'm pushing it hard. I agree."

Members of the committee said the texts raise fresh questions about what was happening at the White House — and what Trump was doing — as the attack was underway. The committee had planned to question Meadows about the communications, including 6,600 pages of records taken from personal email accounts and about 2,000 text messages. The panel has not released any of the communications in full.

Republican Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, the panel's vice chairwoman, said at the committee's Monday evening meeting that an important issue raised by the texts is whether Trump sought to obstruct the congressional certification by refusing to send a strong message to the rioters to stop.

"These texts leave no doubt," Cheney said. "The White House knew exactly what was happening at the Capitol."

The committee's leaders have vowed to punish anyone who doesn't comply, and the Justice Department has already indicted longtime Trump ally Steve Bannon on two counts of contempt after he defied his subpoena. If convicted, Bannon and Meadows could face up to one year behind bars on each charge.

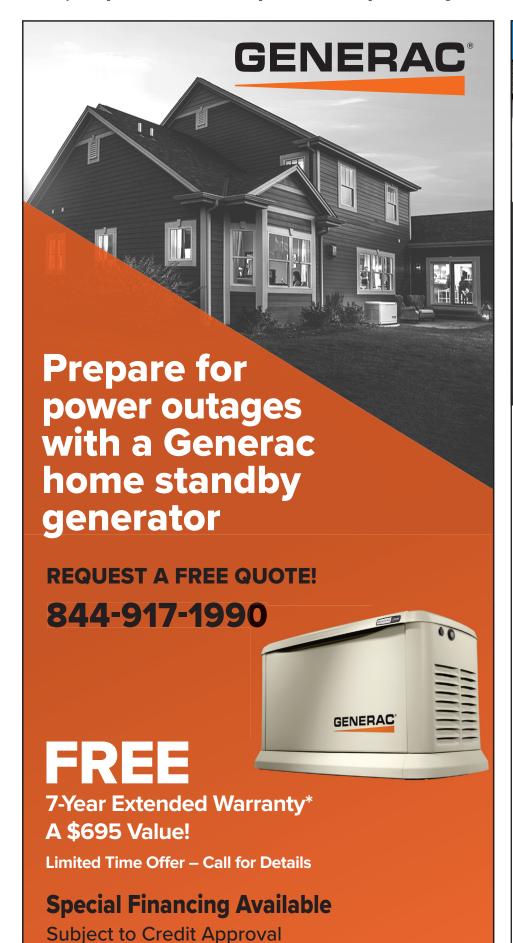
"Whatever legacy he thought he left in the House, this is his legacy now," committee Chairman Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., said of Meadows.

However, in a Tuesday statement, Meadows' attorney George Terwilliger said the former chief of staff had never stopped cooperating though maintaining he could not be compelled to appear for an interview. The attorney said Meadows had "fully cooperated" with respect to documents that are in his possession and are not privileged.

On Monday night, Cheney read from the texts from Trump Jr., a series of Fox News hosts and members of Congress as those in Trump's inner circle attempted to reach the president through his chief of staff.

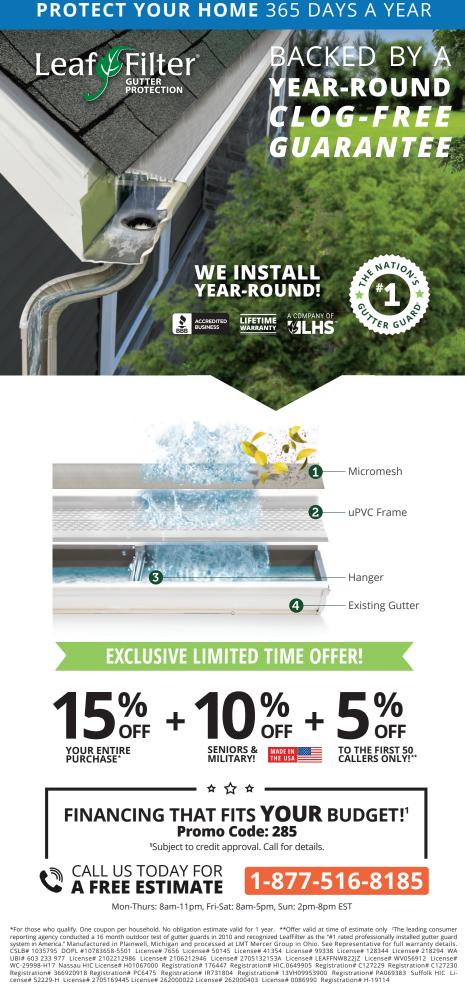
"Hey Mark, the president needs to tell people in the Capitol to go home ... this is hurting all of us ... he is destroying his legacy," Fox News host Laura Ingraham texted Meadows, according to the committee. Another text from Sean Hannity: "Can he make a statement? Ask people to leave the Capitol."

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said at Tuesday's briefing that the texts were "disappointing and, unfortunately, not surprising."



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terms and conditions.



## NKorea's Kim at critical crossroads

Economy, nukes top leader's challenges after decade of rule

**By Kim Tong-Hyung** Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Too young. Too weak. Too inexperienced.

Since taking power following his father's sudden death 10 years ago this week, Kim Jong Un has erased those widespread doubts that greeted his early attempts to extend his family's brutal dynastic grip over North Korea.

Early predictions about a regency, a collective leadership or a military coup were crushed by an estimated hundreds of executions and purges targeting family members and the old guard. That ruthless consolidation of power, together with a larger-than-life personality seemingly made for carefully packaged TV propaganda, has allowed Kim to make clear that his authority is absolute.

But as North Korea's first millennial dictator marks a decade in rule Friday, he may be facing his toughest moment yet, as crushing sanctions, the pandemic and growing economic trouble converge.

If Kim can't uphold his public pledge to develop both nukes and his moribund economy, something many experts see as impossible, it could spell trouble for his long-term rule.

The modest economic growth he achieved for several years through trade and market-oriented reforms was followed by a tightening of international sanctions since 2016, when Kim accelerated his pursuit of nuclear weapons and missiles targeting the United States and its Asian allies.

After basking in the global spotlight at summits with former U.S. President Donald Trump in 2018 and 2019, Kim is now stuck at home, grappling with a



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un waves at the end of a military parade during 2012 at Kim II Sung Square in Pyongyang, North Korea. Kim has spent 10 years erasing doubts that he was too young and weak to hold on to power. DAVID GUTTENFELDER/AP

decaying economy worsened by pandemic-related border closures.

Negotiations with Washington have been deadlocked for more than two years after he failed to win badly needed sanctions relief from Trump.

President Joe Biden's administration seems in no hurry to cut a deal unless Kim shows a willingness to wind down his nuclear weapons program, a "treasured sword" he sees as his biggest guarantee of survival.

While still firmly in control, Kim appears increasingly unlikely to achieve his stated goals of simultaneously keeping his nukes and bringing prosperity to his impoverished populace. Kim laid out this goal in his first public speech as leader in early 2012, vowing that North Koreans would "never have to tighten their belts again."

How Kim handles the economy in the coming years could determine the long-term stability of his rule and possibly the future of his family's dynasty, said Park Won Gon, a professor of North Korea studies at Seoul's Ewha Womans University.

"The nuclear weapons program, the economy and the stability of the regime are all interconnected. If the nuclear issue doesn't get resolved, the economy doesn't get better, and that opens the possibility of disquiet and confusion in North Korea's society," Park

Kim desperately needs the removal of U.S.-led sanctions to build his economy, which has also been damaged by decades of mismanagement and aggressive military spending.

But meaningful U.S. relief may not come unless Kim takes concrete steps toward denuclearization. Despite his pursuit of summitry, Trump showed no interest in budging on sanctions, which he described as Washington's main leverage over Pyongyang, and it's unclear if Kim will ever see another U.S. president as willing to engage with the

North as Trump was.

Their diplomacy fell apart after their second summit in February 2019, when the Americans rejected North Korea's demand for a major removal of sanctions in exchange for dismantling an aging nuclear facility, which would have amounted to a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

The two sides haven't met publicly since a failed follow-up meeting between working-level officials in October of that year. Two months after that Kim vowed at a domestic political conference to further expand his nuclear arsenal in the face of "gangster-like" U.S. pressure, urging his people to stay resilient in the struggle for economic self-reliance.

But the global COVID-19 crisis has hampered some of Kim's major economic goals by forcing the country into a self-imposed lockdown that crippled its trade with China, its only major ally and economic lifeline.

South Korea's spy agency recently told lawmakers that

North Korea's annual trade with China declined by two-thirds to \$185 million through September 2021. North Korean officials are also alarmed by food shortages, soaring goods prices and a lack of medicine and other essential supplies that have accelerated the spread of water-borne diseases like typhoid fever, according to lawmakers briefed by the agency.

Talks with the United States are in limbo. The Biden administration, whose pullout from Afghanistan underscored a broader shift in U.S. focus from counterterrorism and so-called rogue states like North Korea and Iran to confronting China, has not offered much more than openended talks.

The North has so far rejected the overture, saying Washington must first abandon its "hostile policy," a term Pyongyang mainly uses to refer to sanctions and U.S.-South Korea military exercises.

"North Korea is not going to surrender its nuclear

weapons, no matter what," said Andrei Lankov, a professor at Seoul's Kookmin University. "The only topic they are willing to talk about is not the pipe dream of denuclearization but rather issues related to arms control."

Kim may benefit, however, from the Washington-Beijing confrontation, which increases North Korea's strategic value to China, Lankov said. China is willing to keep North Korea afloat by expanding food, fuel and other aid, and that reduces pressure on Kim to negotiate with the United States.

"Instead of growth, North Korea will have stagnation, but not an acute crisis,' Lankov said. "For Kim Jong Un and his elite, it's an acceptable compromise."

North Korea has been taking aggressive steps to reassert greater state control over the economy amid the country's pandemic border closure.

This rolls back Kim's earlier reforms, which embraced private investments and allowed more autonomy and market incentives to state enterprises and factories to facilitate domestic production and trade.

Restoring central control over the economy could also be crucial for mobilizing state resources so that Kim could further expand his nuclear program, which would otherwise be challenging as the economy worsens.

While Kim has suspended the testing of nuclear devices and long-range missiles for three years, he has ramped up testing of shorter-range weapons threatening U.S. allies South Korea and

"Nukes brought Kim to this mess, but he's maintaining a contradictory policy of further pushing nukes to get out of it," said Go Myonghyun, a senior analyst at Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.



exploded in Cap-Hatien, Haiti. JOSEPH ODELYN/AP

## Fireball from overturned tanker kills dozens in Haiti

By Pierre-Richard Luxama and **Evens Sanon** Associated Press

CAP-HAITIEN, Haiti A gasoline tanker overturned and exploded in northern Haiti, unleashing a fireball that swept through homes and businesses on its way to killing at least 60 people in the latest tragedy to befall the Caribbean

The blast occurred shortly after midnight in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second largest city, along the northern coast. Hours later, at dawn Tuesday, buildings and overturned vehicles were still smoldering as firefighters covered the burned bodies of the young victims in white sheets and loaded them onto the back of a construction truck.

Hundreds of Haitians looked on from rooftops in disbelief at the loss of so much life.

"It's horrible what happened," said Patrick Almonor, deputy mayor of Cap-Haitien, adding that he expects the death toll to rise as first responders comb through buildings gutted by the fire. "We lost

so many lives."

Early reports indicate that the tanker was trying to avoid an oncoming motorcycle when it flipped. Onlookers then rushed to the scene with buckets to scoop up what they could of the tanker's valuable cargo, likely for resale on the black market, as the fuel spilled toward a nearby pile of smoldering trash.

"It was after midnight and I heard a loud noise so I asked one of my boys to go and look. He told me a gasoline truck exploded," said Abraham Joanis, 61, as he carried around a guitar rescued unscathed from the charred remains of his home, one of 50 gutted by the blaze.

"Right away, I left with my family, and I headed the other way to the bridge," he

Severe fuel shortages in recent months that drove impoverished Haitians to scramble for gasoline have shuttered gas stations, sent gas prices on the black market spiraling and forced hospitals and businesses to close as the U.S. and Canadian governments have urged their citizens to leave while they still can.

The shortages are the latest manifestation of a society on the brink ever since the July 7 assassination of President Jovenel Moise and a 7.2 magnitude earthquake a few weeks later that killed more than 2,200 people and destroyed tens of thousands of homes.

The country has been hit by a spike in gang-related kidnappings, including 17 missionaries with a U.S. religious organization who were abducted in mid-October. Five of them have been released, but another 12 are still being held.

Hospitals in Haiti's second-largest city seemed ill equipped to deal with the disaster. One facility overwhelmed with burn victims pleaded for basic supplies and more medical staff.

Prime Minister Ariel Henry, himself a physician, traveled to Cap-Haitien and promised a large contingent of medical professionals as well as a field hospital.

He visited the Justinien University Hospital, the historic city's largest, where doctors struggled to provide assistance to burn victims, some of whom were covered head to toe in bandages.

## Senate avoids default, votes to raise debt limit by \$2.5T

**By Brian Slodysko** Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate approved legislation Tuesday to lift the nation's debt limit by \$2.5 trillion under a deal struck between party leaders, defusing a volatile issue until after next year's midterm elections while saddling majority Democrats with a tough

vote. The 50-49 party line vote came just one day shy of a deadline set by Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, who warned last month that she was running out of maneuvering room to avoid the nation's first-ever default. The measure now moves to the House where a vote could come as early as Tuesday night, sending it to Pres-

ident Joe Biden's desk. "This is about paying debt accumulated by both parties, so I'm pleased Republicans and Democrats came together," Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said of the agreement, which created a workaround that allowed Democrats to avoid

a Republican filibuster. Despite a seemingly straightforward name, the nation's debt limit does little to curtail future debt. Established in 1917, it serves as a brake on spending decisions already approved by Congress and the White House — some decades ago - that if left unpaid could cripple markets, send the economy into a tailspin and shake global confidence in the U.S.

That hasn't stopped GOP saber rattling. For months, they have used the debt limit to attack Democrats' big-spending social and environmental agenda while pledging to staunchly oppose the current effort to increase the threshold. In October, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said he would not "be a party to any future effort to mitigate the consequences



Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., speaks Tuesday. The Senate voted to raise the debt limit by over \$2.5 trillion just ahead of a deadline. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

of Democratic mismanagement."

In striking a deal, McConnell backtracked on his word. But he also got much of what he wanted: Democrats taking a politically difficult vote without Republican support, while increasing the limit by a staggering dollar figure that is sure to appear in future attack ads.

"If they jam through another taxing and spending spree this massive debt increase will just be the beginning," McConnell said Tuesday.

The decision, however, has proven unpopular with some Republicans, particu-

larly Donald Trump. Trump has railed against the deal repeatedly, calling McConnell a "Broken Old Crow" who "didn't have the guts to play the Debt Ceiling card, which would have given the Republicans a complete victory on virtu-

ally everything." Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, also criticized the process Schumer and McConnell agreed to, which he warned could be used in the future to "launder" unpopular votes while bypassing the Senate's normal mode of operation.

Under the agreement, an amendment was made to an unrelated Medicare bill that passed last week with Republican votes. It created a one-time, fasttrack process for raising the debt limit that allowed Democrats to do so with a simple majority, bypassing the 60-vote threshold to avoid a GOP filibuster.

Lee said the process was intended to make the Republican votes last week "appear as something other than helping Democrats raise the debt ceiling," which he said Republican leadership "committed, in writing no less, not to do."

Yet Republican arguments against debt limit increases often ignore inconvenient facts.

The nation's current debt load of \$28.9 trillion has been racking up for decades. Major drivers include popular spending programs, like Social Security and Medicare, interest on the debt and recent COVID-19 relief packages.

But taxation is also a major factor, and a series of tax cuts enacted by Republican presidents in recent decades has added to it, too.

The national debt includes \$7.8 trillion heaped onto the pile during Trump's four-year presidency, an analysis of Treasury records shows.

**NEWS BRIEFING** 

**WORLD & NATION** 

## Record highs, rainfall and beaver damage in Arctic, US study shows

From news services

The Arctic continues to deteriorate from global warming, not setting as many records this year as in the past, but still changing so rapidly that federal scientists call it alarming in their annual Arctic report card.

The 16th straight health check for the northern polar region spotlighted the first rainfall at Greenland summit station, record warm temperatures between October and December 2020, and the new problem of expansion of beavers in the Arctic.

"The trends are consistent, alarming and undeniable." U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration chief Rick Spinrad said presenting the findings by 111 scientists from 12 countries at the American Geophysical Union conference Tuesday. "The loss of the great white cap that once covered the top of the world is one of the most iconic indicators of climate change."

Added Spinrad: "We have a narrow window of time to avoid very costly, deadly and irreversible future climate

The 2020-2021 polar year — scientists study the Arctic on a yearly basis from October to September was only the 7th warmest on record. However, October to December in 2020 set a record for the warmest

This report card comes out as the Arctic warms two to three times faster than the rest of the planet. The region's melting ice opens the door to more pressures, including the potential for more oil and gas drilling and more mining and more tensions between countries wanting to exploit the area.

For the people who live there, it means having to

adapt to a ground that is getting softer as permafrost melts and forces changes to traditional hunting and fish-

Hours before the report card release, the World Meteorological Organization announced that it confirmed a new record warm temperature set for the Arctic in June 2020 in the Russian town of Verkhoyansk. Temperature in that Siberian town hit 100.4

US-Asia relations: The United States will expand its military and economic relationships with partners in Asia to push back against China's increasing assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Tuesday in Indonesia.

Blinken said the Biden administration is committed to maintaining peace and prosperity in the region and will do that by boosting U.S. alliances, forging new relationships and ensuring that the U.S. military maintains "its competitive edge."

Later Blinken signed a series of three agreements with Indonesia's foreign minister, including one that extends until 2026 an existing maritime cooperation pact that among other issues calls for enhanced joint U.S.-Indonesian naval exercises.

Navy ship fire: A key witness in the Navy's case against a junior sailor accused of setting the fire that destroyed a U.S. warship last year testified Tuesday that he is certain that he saw the suspect in the area where the flames ignited, but acknowledged changing the account he initially told investigators.

Petty Öfficer Kenii Velasco blamed his nervousness for the changes to his



Members of the Spanish Army use shovels to remove ash from a house on Tuesday in Las Manchas on the Canary Island of La Palma off the African coast. The ash is from the Cumbre Vieja volcano that first erupted on Sept. 19. While the volcano fell silent Tuesday, scientists warned that the lack of seismic activity didn't mean the end of eruptions. JORGE GUERRERO/GETTY-AFP

story and said in military court during a preliminary hearing that he was now "100 percent" sure that he saw the suspect, Apprentice Ryan Sawyer Mays, descend to the ship's lower vehicle storage area on the day of the fire.

Investigators have said cardboard boxes in the storage area were ignited, starting the blaze that burned for nearly five days on the USS Bonhomme Richard in July 2020, injuring dozens of personnel aboard. The amphibious assault ship was so badly damaged that it had to be scuttled.

Mays has denied igniting the fire, insisting he was on the ship's hangar bay when the fire started.

Mays is charged with aggravated arson and the willful hazarding of a vessel. The hearing will determine whether there is enough evidence for a military trial.

Belarus crackdown: A court in Belarus on Tuesday sentenced the husband of the country's opposition leader to 18 years in prison, six months after the trial began behind closed doors. The charges against Siarhei Tsikhanouski included organizing mass unrest and inciting hatred and have been widely seen as politically motivated.

Five other opposition activists were sentenced to prison terms of 14 to 16 years. Tsikhanouski, 43, a popular video blogger and activist, planned to challenge authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko in the August 2020 presidential election.

He was widely known for the anti-Lukashenko slogan "Stop the cockroach." He was arrested in May 2020, two days after he declared his candidacy.

His wife, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, ran in his stead, drawing tens of thousands of people to rally in her support during the campaign. Official results of the vote handed Lukashenko a landslide

victory and a sixth term in office, but were denounced by opposition and the West as a sham.

Mich. school shooting: A iudge on Tuesday granted a prosecutor more time to collect and share additional evidence against the parents of a boy charged with killing four students at Oxford High School, partly to give the Michigan community "time to heal."

James and Jennifer Crumbley are charged with involuntary manslaughter. They're accused of giving 15-year-old Ethan Crumbley access to a gun and failing to intervene when they were confronted with his disturbing drawings hours before the Nov. 30 shooting.

The teenager is separately charged as an adult with murder and other crimes.

Judge Julie Nicholson granted a request by prosecutors and defense lawvers to postpone until Feb. 8 a key hearing that will determine whether the elder Crumbleys will face a trial.

Cuomo book: Former Gov. Andrew Cuomo was ordered by New York's ethics commission Tuesday to give up millions of dollars a publisher paid him to write a book about his response to the coronavirus pandemic.

An attorney immediately called the action unconstitutional and promised a fight.

Cuomo was directed to turn over proceeds earned from "American Crisis: Leadership Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic" within 30 days under a resolution approved 12-1 by the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, according to multiple media reports.

The order came a month after the commission voted to rescind the ethics approval it had given Cuomo as he entered into the \$5.1 million book deal.

"American Crisis" was published in October 2020. Cuomo resigned in August amid findings he sexually harassed 11 women.



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## BUSINESS

# Fed expected to speed up economic aid withdrawal

Central bank may also announce 2 or 3 rate hikes in 2022 later this week

**By Christopher Rugaber** 

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Under Chair Jerome Powell, the Federal Reserve is poised this week to execute a sharp turn toward tighter interest-rate policies with inflation accelerating and unemployment falling faster

On Wednesday, the Fed will likely announce that it will reduce its monthly bond purchases at twice the rate that Powell had outlined six weeks ago. Those bond purchases are intended to lower longer-term rates, so winding them down more quickly – likely by early spring – will lessen some of the economic aid the Fed supplied after the pandemic erupted last

Fed officials are also expected to forecast that they will raise their benchmark shortterm rate, which has been pegged near zero since March 2020, two or three times next year. Rate hikes would, in turn, increase a wide range of borrowing costs. Three three months ago, the Fed had penciled in barely one rate increase in 2022.

The Fed's pivot comes after consumer inflation reached a four-decade high in November, and it reflects a growing recognition among Powell and other policymakers that the economy hasn't progressed the way they had expected it would just a few months ago.

For much of 2021, they had calculated that inflation would be "transitory" and were more concerned that unemployment might not fall fast enough. Yet substantial price increases have spread beyond such pandemic-disrupted industries as autos, electronics and building materials into rents, restaurant menus and medical care. Rising inflation has become a heavy burden for many American households, especially those that are struggling to afford food and fuel costs, and a source of public discontent with President Joe Biden and Democrats in Congress.

Fed officials still expect inflation to cool by the second half of next year. Yet they now foresee a significant risk that high prices will persist. That likelihood was reinforced Tuesday by a government report that wholesale inflation jumped 9.6% for the 12 months ending in November, the fastest year-over-year pace on records dating

The unemployment rate has also dropped quickly since Fed policymakers last met in early November — from from 4.8% to 4.2% — a sign the economy is solid and edging closer to maximum employment, one of the Fed's two mandates along with price stability.

Powell said in congressional testimony two weeks ago that the Fed would likely speed up the reduction, or tapering, of its bond purchases. Economists now expect the tapering to end by March, instead of the previous timeline Powell had set of June. Doing so will allow the Fed to begin raising rates earlier next year if it chooses to do so to fight inflation.

"Price increases have spread much more broadly in the (most) recent few months across the economy, and I think the risk of higher inflation has increased." Powell said at a Senate committee hearing Nov. 30.



Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Treasury Department announced Tuesday the release of \$8.7 billion to help increase lending to small and minority-owned businesses and people living in poorer communities with limited access to banking.

The funds from the Emergency Capital Investment Program, which was created this year, will go to 186 community-based financial institutions. Vice President Kamala Harris and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen discussed the investments in remarks at the Freedman's Bank Forum, which was hosted by the Treasury Department.

'The wealth gap persists today, the homeownership gap persists," Harris said of the need for the investments. "Black entrepreneurs are three times more likely to report that a lack of access to capital negatively affects their profit margins."

Yellen stressed that there would be a direct link between the money being provided and businesses in local communities.

Black Americans represent 13.4% of the U.S. population, yet Federal Reserve figures show they control just 4.3% of household wealth. More than half of Black household wealth is in the form of pension entitlements, which cannot be passed along to future generations. This inequity makes it harder for people living in predominantly Black communities to qualify for business loans and mortgages in ways that could help build their net worth.

The \$8.7 billion will be going to institutions headquartered in 36 states, as well as Guam and Washington, D.C. Roughly 54% of the funds is going to banks and 46% to credit unions.

The distributions will range from more than \$200 million for the largest institutions to less than \$100,000 for smaller ones.



Snowplows work Thursday on a stretch of eastbound Interstate 90 as snow falls near Snoggalmie Pass in Washington state. Some states are seeing a shortage of snowplow drivers this winter for a variety of reasons. TEDS. WARREN/AP

# Shortage of snowplow drivers

Aging workforce, increased demand for diesel mechanics, CDL drivers among reasons

By Amy Beth Hanson Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. — More drivers could find themselves stuck on snowy highways or have their travel delayed this winter due

to a shortage of snowplow drivers. States from Washington to Pennsylvania, including Montana and Wyoming in the Rocky Mountains, are having trouble finding enough people willing to take the comparatively low-paying jobs that require a Commercial Driver's License and often entail working at odd hours in dangerous

We want the traveling public to understand why it could take longer this season to clear highways during winter storms," said Jon Swartz, the maintenance administrator for the Montana Department of Transportation, which is short about 90 drivers. "Knowing this helps motorists to plan ahead and adjust or even delay travel

State transportation departments say

there are several reasons for a lack of snowplow drivers: the record low unemployment rate, an aging workforce and an increased demand for diesel mechanics and CDL drivers in other industries. Private companies can also be more nimble - raising salaries and offering bonuses to drivers - than state agencies, which usually have to

get legislative approval to change salaries. "Everyone's sort of competing for the same group of workers and private companies can often offer higher salaries than the state government," said Barbara LaBoe, spokesperson for Washington state's Department of Transportation.

Along with the competitive market, LaBoe said Washington also lost 151 winter operations workers who did not want to comply with the state's COVID-19 vaccine mandate. One of the main competitors for states seeking workers with a Commercial Driver's License are private trucking companies that have been raising driver pay, in some cases several times this year, to fill their own shortages and meet the increasing demand to move freight and clear supply chain bottlenecks.

The American Trucking Associations estimates there will be a record shortage of just over 80,000 drivers this year, and that doesn't include the shortfall in drivers for school buses, public transportation or

The ATA says the shortage has many roots, including many drivers nearing retirement age, the pandemic causing some to leave the industry and training schools churning out fewer new drivers in 2020.

Others may leave the industry because they don't like being away from home while an increase in the number of states legalizing marijuana leads to more drivers being unable to pass a drug test, the ATA says.

Some states are willing to hire snowplow drivers and pay for their CDL training, but it's not likely those hires will be ready to work this winter, officials said.

Some snowplow drivers work yearround in highway maintenance jobs, while seasonal workers are hired to fill the additional shifts in the winter.

The shortage is leading states to make plans to shift mechanics and other full-time employees who have Commercial Driver's Licenses into plows, which can cause problems if a plow needs maintenance work and the mechanic is out driving. In Washington. LaBoe said some roads and mountain passes will be closed longer than usual during and after storms.

#### **BUSINESS BRIEFING**

## Billionaires take Giving Pledge

The Giving Pledge announced Tuesday that 14 more billionaires, including the CEOs of DoorDash and Pinterest, had promised in 2021 to donate more than half their fortunes, raising the total to 231 philanthropists from

Founded in 2010 by Bill Gates, Melinda French Gates and Warren Buffett, the Giving Pledge aims to foster a culture of philanthropy among the world's wealthiest to tackle the world's biggest problems.

This year's new Giving Pledge philanthropists include Tony Xu, the CEO and co-founder of DoorDash, and his wife, Patti Bao; Ben Silbermann, CEO and co-founder of Pinterest, and his wife, Divya; and Melanie Perkins and Cliff Obrecht, co-founders of design platform Canva.

## Record hike in wholesale prices

WASHINGTON — Prices at the wholesale level surged by a record 9.6% in November from a year earlier, an indication of ongoing inflation pressures

The Labor Department said Tuesday that its producer price index, which measures inflation before it reaches consumers, rose 0.8% in November after a 0.6% monthly gain in October. It was the highest monthly reading in four months.

Food prices, which had fallen 0.3% in October, jumped 1.2% in November. Energy prices rose 2.6% after a 5.3% percent rise

The 12-month increase in wholesale inflation set a new record, surpassing the old records for 12-month increases of 8.6% set in both September and October.

## EU eyes sweeping update of Big Tech rules

By Kelvin Chan **Associated Press** 

LONDON - The European Union's ambitious plan to update its pioneering internet rules gained momentum Tuesday after a key committee passed measures requiring technology companies to better police content and lawmakers prepared to vote on regulations to rein in Big Tech.

The 27-nation bloc has for the past year been drafting a sweeping overhaul of regulations for digital companies, aimed at making sure tech giants like Google and Facebook, now renamed Meta, treat rivals fairly and protect users on their platforms.

The rules, which have been the subject of fierce lobbying from the tech industry, look

set for approval from lawmakers, though they still face tough negotiations next year with EU bodies. The regulations, and similar ones in the United Kingdom to curb harmful online content, show Europe's role as a pacesetter for regulating the tech industry as a global movement picks up pace following whistleblower Frances Haugen's allegations that Facebook put profits ahead of safety.

One set of EU rules, the Digital Services Act, aims to make tech companies more responsible for content on their platforms. The lead committee working on the rules said Tuesday that it approved amendments before sending the draft to the full EU Parliament for a vote, expected in January.

The committee approved a ban on plat-

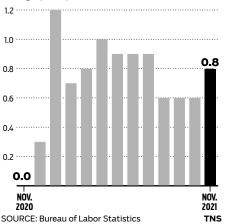
forms using "dark patterns" - deceptive or nudge techniques to influence users to do things that they don't intend to - as well as restrictions on targeting ads to children and requiring porn sites to register the identities of users uploading material.

EU officials want to use another set of rules, known as the Digital Markets Act, to clamp down on the biggest online companies by laying out a list of dos and don'ts.

The bloc is seeking to prevent tech giants from dominating digital markets, a change from its previous practice of issuing big fines for past antitrust violations. The draft Digital Markets Act includes giving the EU's executive branch the power to stop tech companies from buying up innovative startups to block future competition.

#### **Producer price index**

Index of prices U.S. producers receive for goods and services, percent change from previous month



#### **BUSINESS**



A worker was fired from Chinese e-commerce titan Alibaba after she went public this year with a sexual assault allegation carried out by another employee. GREG BAKER/GETTY-AFP

## Fired Alibaba worker: Going public results in 'more hurt'

By Zen Soo **Associated Press** 

HONG KONG - An employee of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba who was fired after she went public with a sexual assault allegation says she is not encouraging other victims in China to come forward because doing so "will only cause them to suffer more hurt."

The employee, surnamed Zhou, had gone public in August with accusations that a fellow employee had sexually assaulted her during a business trip. The case prompted a public outcry over the handling of sexual assault cases in China.

In an interview with Chinese newspaper Dahe Daily published Saturday, Zhou said that she had received many messages from other women who said they too had been plied with alcohol and sexually assaulted during work-related events.

Most of them did not come forward, choosing instead to tolerate it or

"My heart hurts for these people, but I can under-

stand why they chose to deal with it this way," said Zhou to Dahe Daily. "I will not appeal to other victims of sexual assault to come forth and share their stories. as doing so could cause them to suffer even more hurt."

"I hope that (they) can eventually walk out of their trauma and lead a normal and ordinary life," she said.

In November, Zhou had been sent a letter informing her about the termination of her employment, according to documents seen by The Associated Press.

Her termination came even as Alibaba CEO Daniel Zhang pledged in a public memo in August to form an anti-sexual harassment policy and said that the employee accused of the assault had been fired.

According to the letter from Alibaba subsidiary Zhejiang Tmall Technology Co. Ltd., she was dismissed for spreading false information about her assault and how the company had allegedly not handled the issue appropriately. Her actions had negatively impacted the company, the letter read.

Alibaba did not comment

on the issue.

Zhou's dismissal from Alibaba came weeks after Chinese tennis player Peng Shuai posted a social media post alleging that she was sexually assaulted by former top Communist Party official Zhang Gaoli. Peng has largely remained out of the public eye since the accusations, stoking concerns that her safety may be at stake.

In August, Zhou had published a lengthy 8,000word post on Alibaba's internal system detailing the alleged sexual assault by a fellow employee and a client during a business trip the month before. She claimed that Alibaba did not take the matter seriously when she reported the assault.

Chinese prosecutors in September dropped the case against the former Alibaba employee surnamed Wang accused of sexual assault, instead giving him a 15-day detention. Zhou has since filed an appeal against the decision.

Prosecutors however issued an arrest warrant for Zhang, the client whom Zhou had accused of also assaulting her.

## Bud blockers: Over 400 NY localities say 'no' to pot sales

By Michael Hill Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — More than 400 towns and villages across New York have opted to block local marijuana dispensaries and consumption lounges as a statewide deadline to do so nears, with many officials deciding to stay out of the upcoming market until regulators provide more clarity.

The law that legalized recreational marijuana in New York this year gives municipalities until Dec. 31 to "opt out" of hosting dispensaries or on-site consumption lounges once retail sales start in a year or so. Localities cannot ban legalized possession.

With three weeks left to act, more than a quarter of the New York's towns and 31% of its villages had voted to become the cannabis equivalent of dry towns when it comes to dispensaries — at least initially. Numbers were slightly higher for consumption sites. Relatively few cities have officially opted out, and none of the state's largest ones, according to an online tracker maintained by the Rockefeller Institute of Government.

Passage of the legalization law in March prompted local debates around the state, with residents touting the lifestyle and economic benefits of dispensaries facing off against people opposed to pot sales in their hometowns.

"We are concerned that dispensaries in our neighborhoods will normalize the use of marijuana even further than it already is," said Anita Seefried-Brown of the Watertown-based Alliance for Better Communities, which is focused on reducing underage substance abuse.

Watertown, a city of 25,000 in northern New York, opted out after hearing from Seefried-Brown



opted to keep out local marijuana dispensaries as a statewide deadline nears. JULIE JACOBSON/AP

and other residents this summer.

Many local officials who voted to opt out said they were leery about green-lighting sales before the state Office of Cannabis Management provided more information about the market. Town boards like the one in Chautauqua in rural western New York opted out with the knowledge they could reconsider later when more details are in hand.

"The fact that they haven't really published any rules or laws on it yet, it made us kind of nervous that, you know, what are we opting into? We don't know yet, said Chautauqua Supervisor Donald Emhardt.

The Office of Cannabis Management will compile the opt-out information so license applicants know which localities are off-lim-

Given the time needed to adopt regulations and grant licenses, dispensaries could open by the end of 2022, said Jeffrey Schultz, an attorney who represents cannabis interests. He said operations could open a bit earlier depending on how the state issues licenses.

As of Friday, 252 towns and 164 villages opted out of retail dispensaries. Municipalities typically opted out of both dispensaries and consumption sites. Though the numbers for consumption sites were higher: 279 towns and 179 villages, according to the Rockefeller Institute of Government.

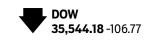
"There's no surprise that they've acted ahead of the deadline, and we expect some will choose to fully join the marketplace as we build a new, safe, regulated cannabis industry that protects public health and creates opportunity," said Freeman Klopott, a spokesperson for the office.

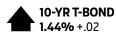
Dispensary oppositions tended to break along generational lines in many places. In the town of Goshen north of New York City, older people tended to support a ban with younger people saying local sales should be allowed, said Superintendent Douglas Bloomfield.

"I didn't see a whole lot of middle of the road people," said Al Stauber, mayor of the Village of McGraw in central New York.

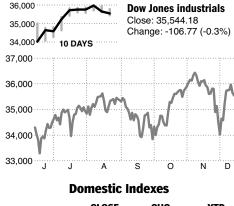
#### MARKET RUNDOWN

Wednesday, December 15, 2021









D	Domestic Indexes												
	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD										
DOW Indus.	35,544.18	-106.77	+16.13%										
DOW Trans.	16,008.00	-202.82	+27.99%										
DOW Util.	942.26	-5.00	+8.98%										
NYSE Comp.	16,652.58	-66.99	+14.65%										
Nasdaq Comp.	15,237.64	-175.64	+18.23%										
S&P 500	4,634.09	-34.88	+23.38%										
S&P 400	2,737.92	-12.81	+18.70%										
Wilshire 5000	47,115.81	-372.17	+19.41%										
Russell 2000	2,159.65	-20.85	+9.36%										

Commodities											
FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD								
Crude Oil (bbl)	70.73	71.29	+45.77%								
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.75	3.79	+47.58%								
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.11	2.12	+48.25%								
METALS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD								
Gold (oz)	1,770.40	1,786.30	-6.48%								
Silver (oz)	21.89	22.29	-16.88%								
(Previous and change figures r	eflect curren	t contract.)									

Forei	gn Excl	hange	Money Rates						
	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx		CLOSE	PREV. WK.				
Britain		.7564	Prime rate	3.25	3.25				
Canada		1.2856	3-mo. T-Bill	0.05	0.06				
China	.1570	6.3675	6-mo. T-Bill	0.13	0.13				
Euro	1.1257	.8883	5-yr T-Note	1.23	1.25				
Japan	.008792	113.74	10-yr T-Note	1.44	1.49				
Mexico	.047014	21.2700	30-yr T-Bond	1.82	1.89				

	Globa	l Marke	ts	
	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	15,453.56	-168.16	-1.08%	+12.65%
London	7,218.64	-12.80	18%	+11.73%
Hong Kong	23,635.95	-318.63	-1.33%	-13.20%
Nikkei	28,432.64	-207.85	73%	+3.60%

#### **Stocks of Local Interest**

STOCK (TICKER) CLOS	E CHG.	YTD %CHG	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG
AMC Entertainment A (AMC) 24.50	+1 26	+1055.7	MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	41.23	+.89	+30.8
AT&T Inc (T) 22.29		-22.5	Magellan Health Inc (MGLN)		10	+13.8
Adagio Therapeutics (ADGI) 7.26		-65.2	MetLife Inc (MET)	60.80	+.93	+29.5
Adv Micro Dev (AMD) 135.60		+47.9	Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	328.34	-11.06	+47.6
Alzamend Neuro Inc (ALZN) 3.08	+.68	-77.2	Novartis AG (NVS)	80.59	26	-14.7
American Airlines Gp (AAL) 16.91		+7.2	Nu Holdings Ltd (NU)	9.92	89	
Amer Virtual Cloud (AVCT) 1.22		-83.1	Nuverra Envrionment (NES)	1.81		-15 <b>.</b> 0
Amphenol Corp (APH) 82.47			Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	283.37	+1.76	+117.1
Annaly Capital Mgmt (NLY) 8.08		-4.4	Ocugen Inc (OCGN)	4.81	49	+162.8
Apple Inc (AAPL) 174.33		+31.4	Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	84.81	57	+25.6
Avangrid Inc (AGR) 48.19		+6.0 +45.6	Palantir Technol (PLTR)	18.64	+.24	-20.8
Bank of America (BAC) 44.13 Barnes Group (B) 46.25		-8.8	Peloton Interactive (PTON)	39.26	-2.08	-74.1
Booking Holdings (BKNG) 2124.93		-4.6	Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	17.21	+.20	+33.1
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY) 59.51		-4.1	Pfizer Inc (PFE)	55.54	+.34	+50.9
CVS Health Corp (CVS) 98.78		+44.6	Pitney Bowes (PBI)	6.35	06	+3.1
Carnival Corp (CCL) 18.15		-16.2	Progenity Inc (PROG)	2.49	03	-53.1
Carrier Global Corp (CARR) 53.55	-1.38	+42.0	Prudential Fncl (PRU)	107.06	+1.98	+37.1
Charter Communic (CHTR) 621.89	+16.34	-6.0	Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	64.53	66	+10.7
Cigna Corp (CI) 216.62	+1.47	+4.1	Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	83.50	83	+16.8
CocaCola Co (KO) 57.80		+5.4	Robinhood Markets A (HOOI		57	-45.1
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA) 48.76		-6.9	Rogers Corp (ROG)	271.30	+.05	+74.7
Disney (DIS) 149.10		-17.7	SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)	78.44	+.28	+7.8
EMCOR Group Inc (EME) 122.86		+34.3	SeaChange Intl Inc (SEAC)	1.51	21	+7.9
East Stone Acquis (ESSC) 13.50 Eros Intl plc (EROS) .25		+34.3	SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	14.48	10	-36.1
Ethan Allen (ETD) 24.99		+23.7	Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	4.74	26	+59.1
Eversource Energy (ES) 89.26		+3.2	Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	191.38	-1.05	+7.2
Exicure Inc (XCUR) .25		-85.7	Starwood Prop Trust (STWD		72	+20.2
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM) 61.54		+49.3	Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.56	01	+18.6
Ford Motor (F) 20.05	38	+128.1	Terex Corp (TEX)	43.60	48	+25.0
FuelCell Energy (FCEL) 6.33	56	-43.3	Tesla Inc (TSLA)	958.51	-7.90	+35.8
Galera Therapeutics (GRTX) 2.70		-73.6	Travelers Cos (TRV)	156.73	+3.55	+11.7
Gen Dynamics (GD) 203.47		+36.7	Uber Technologies (UBER)	37.26	+1.53	-26.9
Gen Electric (GE) 92.11		+6.9	United Rentals (URI)	337.58	68	+45.6
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB) 6.79		-22.4	UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	479.46	+1.32	+36.7
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG) 68.05		+38.9 -2.8	Verizon Comm (VZ)	50.65	+.37	-13.8
Honeywell Intl (HON) 206.68 Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN) 16.20		-2.8 +22.4	Virtus Invest (VRTS)	284.84	66	+31.3
Infosys Ltd (INFY) 10.20		+35.0	Voya Financial (VOYA)	62.36	+.17	+6.0
Intel Corp (INTC) 49.70		2	Webster Financial (WBS)	52.81	+.48	+25.3
Kaman (KAMN) 40.49		-29.1	White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1011.89	+9.15	+1.1
Keycorp (KEY) 22.76		+38.7	World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	47.54	46	-1.1
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC) 66.41		+32.0	XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	71.86	92	+3.6
Lucid Group Inc (LCID) 40.87	+1.72	+52.3	Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	20.56	+.01	-11.3





#### 10 Things You Might Not **Know About Nearly Everything**

contains a plethora of tidbits and trivia that will appeal to everyone, from history buffs to sports fans to foodies. From lighthearted topics such as misspellings and extreme eating, to serious subjects such as WWII and prison, this book leaves readers brighter and wittier than ever before.

**FACT #84:** A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

**FACT #178:** Genuphobia is the fear of knees.

**FACT #238:** Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.



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## PINION

## What the new right sees in contemporary America



**Ross Douthat** 

The younger American right isn't like the conservatism of 20 years ago - it's more reactionary and radical all at once, more pessimistic and possibly more dangerous. That's the message of a pair of recent anthropologies of the youthful conservative intelligentsia: one by Sam Adler-Bell in The New Republic, based on interviews with various junior reactionaries, and one by my colleague David Brooks in The Atlantic, following his sojourn at the National Conservatism Conference in Orlando, Florida.

The essays emphasize the ways in which the newer, younger right is ill at ease in contemporary America, its psychology defined more by alienation than the basic patriotic comfort that Ronald Reagan successfully embodied. This emphasis is understandable, but there's another way of looking at the new right's place in Ameri-

can politics. Its vibe is alienated and radical, certainly — but at the same time its analysis of our situation feels more timely, more of this moment, than many alternative programs on the right or left or center.

Suppose you made a list of what each tendency in American politics considers our biggest challenges right now. For the new right, the list might look something

Abroad, the double failure of our post-9/11 nation-building efforts and our open door to China, which requires either a recalibration to contain the Chinese regime or else a general pullback from an overextended empire.

At home, the threat to liberty from Silicon Valley monopolies enforcing progressive orthodoxy and the threat to human happiness from the addictive nature of social media, online pornography and online life in general. The collapse of birthrates, the dissolution of institutional religion and the decline of bourgeois normalcy, manifest in the younger generation's failure to mate, to marry and raise families. The post-1960s "great stagnation" in both living standards and technological innovation. The costs of cultural libertarianism, the increase in unhappiness and high rates of depression and addiction in a more individualistic society

Then finally, the way in which the technocratic response to the pandemic, the retreat to a virtual life suited only to a "laptop class" (and maybe not even to them), may make these problems worse.

Now, you can critique this list and doubt its diagnoses. But still, if you look at reality through the new right's alienated vision, you may see the strange world of 2021 more clearly than through other eyes. It responds to 21st century developments (the China shock, the post-9/11 wars), to trends that have accelerated (religious disaffiliation, the birth dearth) or become more apparent (the great stagnation) since the turn of the millennium, and to institutions and technologies (the tech giants, social media) that were just emerging a generation ago.

I don't see the same timeliness among the new right's rivals. The ossified Reaganism that the younger conservatives intend to supplant is locked into the world of 1980, and if recent upticks in violent crime and inflation are making it seem more relevant again, it's still just a case of a stopped clock

being briefly right.

Meanwhile, both left and center-left are of the moment in their anxiety about Donald Trump. But if you ask them what they really want to do, what problems they intend to fix, their answers usually involve projects that date to the 1960s and 1970s: the completion of a Scandinavian-style welfare state for the economic left, the deconstruction of white male Christian heteronormativity for woke progressivism.

If you asked which worldview has organized itself primarily around things that have changed in the world since 1999, I don't think you'd pick progressivism. When the Biden administration is criticized from the left for its poverty of vision, the missing vision still sounds mostly like a Hubert Humphrey restoration.

Being timelier, of course, doesn't mean that the younger right is destined for power or wise governance. But still, if you look at reality through the new right's alienated vision, you may see the strange world of 2021 more clearly than through other eyes.

Douthat is a columnist for The New York

# Bashing of Build Back Better bogus



**Paul Krugman** 

Build Back Better - the Biden administration's effort to create a better future for America — is resting on a political knife edge. It's anyone's guess whether it will become law. What we do know is that to make it through Congress, it will have to weather a perfect storm of bad faith, bad logic and bad arithmetic.

First things first: Build Back Better is primarily a plan to invest in America's future. Roughly one-third of the proposed spending is on children: pre-K, child care and tax credits that would greatly reduce child poverty. Another third is spending to help restructure the economy to limit climate change. If you include the already enacted infrastructure bill, the Biden agenda is overwhelmingly future-oriented.

And there's every reason to believe that these investments would be highly productive. This is clearly true of aid to children. There's overwhelming evidence that helping disadvantaged children makes them much healthier and productive when they reach adulthood; the benefits are so large that even in a narrowly fiscal sense, aid to children may well pay for itself over the

The same is true for environmental investment. Most discussion of such investment focuses on the long-run mitigation of climate change, and rightly so: The prospect of civilizational collapse does tend to focus the mind.

It's important to note, however, that reducing our dependence on fossil fuels wouldn't just reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. It would also reduce other forms of pollution, notably nitrogen oxides and sulfur, that have negative effects on death rates, illness and crop yields. And the benefits of reduced pollution would arrive quickly. One recent NASA study suggested that the health gains from climate mitigation policy would not only be worth trillions of dollars but would also materialize fast enough to outweigh any costs of energy transition in a decade or less.

So how can anyone be opposed to making these investments?

I guess reporting conventions require that journalists pretend to believe that Republicans have good-faith objections to the Biden plan — that they're worried about deficits, or the effect on incentives, or something. But we all know that their main objection is simply the fact that it's a



Protesters gather near the U.S. Capitol building in a rally Monday to press Congress to pass the Build Back Better Act. PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Democratic initiative, which means that it must fail.

Also, it would tax the rich and help the

Can anyone even remember the last time leading figures in the GOP seriously engaged with real policy concerns?

The most recent important example I can think of is the enactment of the Children's Health Insurance Program in 1997. It has been bad faith ever since.

While the most important source of opposition to Build Back Better is simply the desire to see Biden fail while keeping the rich as rich as possible, there may be some sincere concern that the bill would increase budget deficits. Actually, it wouldn't have a significant deficit impact - the Congressional Budget Office says that the spending is almost completely paid for, and attempts to claim otherwise aren't credible. But even if the deficit did rise, why would that be such a bad thing? I was struck the other day by Elon

Musk's declaration that Build Back Better shouldn't pass because it would increase the budget deficit. Interesting fact: Tesla was founded in 2003 and had its first profitable year in 2020. That is, it spent 17 years spending more money than it was taking in, because it was investing in the future. If, as many executives like to say, the government should be run like a business, why shouldn't it be willing to do the same thing?

Finally, there's a lot of talk about how Build Back Better might worsen inflation - talk that mainly seems to involve failure to do the math, for example by confusing decades with single years and failing to divide by gross domestic product.

It's true that the bill's \$1.75 trillion price tag is, on the surface, a lot of money. But that's spending over 10 years, which means that annual outlays would be far smaller than the \$1.9 trillion rescue plan passed earlier this year, or for that matter the \$768 billion annual defense bill the House passed last week.

Also, much of the spending would be paid for with new taxes. Furthermore, you should never cite a big-sounding budget number without putting it in context. Remember, the U.S. economy is enormous. The budget office estimates that in its first vear Build Back Better would expand the deficit by 0.6% of gross domestic product, a number that would shrink over time.

I'm not aware of any economic model suggesting that spending on that scale would make much of a difference to inflation. And because much of the spending would expand the economy's productive capacity, it would probably reduce inflation

It's the best legislation we're likely to get for years to come. Claims that we should let this opportunity pass out of concern over fiscal responsibility or inflation are uninformed at best, dishonest at worst.

Krugman is a columnist for The New York

## What high court would gain if it reverses Roe v. Wade

By Ramesh Ponnuru Bloomberg Opinion

President Joe Biden's commission on reforming the Supreme Court did not make any recommendations in its final report. Biden did not ask it to. It did, however, show what is on the minds of legal experts of varying political stripes.

What they are worrying about is the court's "legitimacy." Some version of that word appears more than 70 times in the report. Among the questions it takes up: Would packing the court reduce its legitimacy? Would term limits for the justices harm it? Has partisanship already lowered it to a dangerous level?

The high court's legitimacy is also a main subject of debate in the highest-profile case before it this term: the case about Mississippi's ban on abortion after 15 weeks. In 1992's Planned Parenthood v. Casey, the Supreme Court based much of its argument for reaffirming Roe v. Wade on the theory that reversing itself "under fire" would compromise the public's perception of its legitimacy and thereby endanger the rule of law. Justice Stephen Brever echoed this point during the oral arguments over

the Mississippi ban.

The main counter-arguments are that the justices should reach a legal judgment without trying to head off or even predict a public response, and that Roe itself has undermined the court's legitimacy by dragging it into a partisan mire. As a longtime critic of Roe, these are the arguments I find persuasive. In the long run, both the court and U.S. politics will be better off if the grave error of 1973 is erased.

There's something missing from the discussion of legitimacy and Roe, though, something that the commission report gets admirably clear: The term has a lot of different, and sometimes incompatible, meanings. Before we ask what decision in the Mississippi case would be best for the court's institutional interest, we have to consider what sort of institution it is.

For much of U.S. history, the court played a role that was important but much more limited than the one it has performed during the last few decades. It set aside few laws - only two federal laws in the first seven decades under the Constitution. As Americans struggled over issues such as religious pluralism and the size of government, the court was mostly a bystander.

Over the last century, and particularly since World War II, the court has read the Constitution as giving it a much larger role in superintending the policies of the federal and state governments. As it accumulated more power, its conception of itself changed accordingly, as did everyone else's conception of it.

The new Supreme Court declared itself "supreme in the exposition of the law of the Constitution." It flirted with ending the death penalty in the name of "evolving standards of decency" found neither in the Constitution nor even in public-opinion polls. It ended widespread practices that had endured for decades without being considered unconstitutional.

Some of the most grandiose descriptions of its role came in Planned Parenthood v. Casey, one of the cases at issue now. Americans' "belief in themselves" depended on their respect for the court, it claimed. It summoned "the contending sides of a national controversy to end their national division" over abortion.

Americans didn't follow that order, of course. The sides have kept contending. But this exalted view of the Supreme Court found influential adherents. In the 1990s, Kathleen Sullivan, then a professor at Stanford Law School and later its dean, suggested that one of the few outside checks on judicial decisions — the possibility of constitutional amendments to undo their effects when desired by a supermajority of the public — should be suspect.

Overruling Roe would be a blow to this grand version of the court's identity. It would strip away the pretension to political and moral leadership that it has built up over the years. It would amount to an admission that its attempt to impose its will on the public had failed.

Worse, it would be an admission that the attempt had deserved to fail, because Roe substituted the court's will for the Constitution. Today's court would be saying, in effect, that Casey was an act of desperate obstinacy.

The Supreme Court would still have the power to set aside laws. It would be taken less seriously as an oracle. Those who say that the institution would lose some of its clout are not wrong. What they don't see is that it would be a good thing.

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#### Hartford

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 70 E Main St, Stratford, CT 06614, December 21, 2021 at 11:00AM. Ashley Donald, 3060, Boxes. Caroline Young, 5050, Smaller Items. Caroline Young, 5050, Smaller Items.
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

12/8/21 & 12/15/21 7098421

State of Connecticut Superior Court Juvenile Matters Notice To: Shaun Sa father of child born to Angela M. on 8/9/ 119

of parts unknown.

A petition has been filed seeking: Termination of parental rights of the above named child(ren). The petition, whereby the court's decision can affect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be heard on: 1/6/22 at 2:15pm at SCJM 25 School Street, Rockville, CT 06066 Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in the town/city of Hartford, CT

Name of Judge (Print or type)
Hon. Dawne Westbrook S i g n e d
(Judge/Clerk) Betty Skipper Date signed
12/13/21
Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to
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Public Defender. Request for an attorney
should be made immediately in person, by
mail, or by fax at the court office where your
hearing is to be held.

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The Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) invites the submission of signed and sealed proposals to furnish schools, municipalities and non-profits with Office Supplies, Multiurpose Paper and School & Instructiona Supplies. Visit www.crec.org/rfp and click sign in to register and access the bid. Responses must be received no later than 11:00 a.m. on January 21, 2022.

12/13, 14, 15/21 7100667

THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT Hartford, Connecticut

#### REVISIONS TO WATER SUPPLY ORDINANCES AND SEWER ORDINANCES

WATER SUPPLY ORDINANCES: W1a "WATER USED CHARGE (TREATED WATER)" WAIEH)" § WIf "SURCHARGE OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS"

SEWER ORDINANCES § S2e "WASTES EXCLUDED FROM ALL SEWERS" § S2q "USE OF COMBINED SEWERS" § S2s "STATE OF CT GENERAL PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES FROM MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIAL USERS"

S2t "REQUIRED WASTEWATER DISCHARGE 50,000GPD" (NEW) § S2v "ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS" (NEW)

Adopted by the District Board of The Metropolitan District at a meeting on December 6, 2021.

Final revisions are available for inspection at the Office of the District Clerk of the Metropolitan District, 555 Main Street, Hartford or by request DistrictClerk@themdc.

ATTEST: John S. Mirtle, Esq., District Clerk

#### STORAGE TREASURES AUCTION

**Connecticut** 

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at 163 South Road Enfield, CT. 06082

Auction Date and Time: 12/22/2021 at 1:30pm F21 - Winter Star Marie Riach - Household

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase

up until the winning bidder takes possession

of the personal property. 12/8, 15/21 7100558

#### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF AVON

At a GoToMeeting meeting held on December 7, 2021, the Inland Wetlands Commission of the Town of Avon voted as follows:

APPL. #772 – Juliano's Pools, applicant; lan S. Rice and Maina Tilton Rice, owners; request for regulated activities within the 100 foot upland review area: construction of an in-ground pool, concrete patio, fence and related site work. Location: 124 Northgate, Parcel 3310124. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

This notice is posted on the Inland Wetlands Commission page on the Town of Avon website, per Executive Orders related to Covid issued by the Governor of the State of

Copy of this notice is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, Avon Town Hall. Dated at Avon this 13th day of December, 2021.

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION Clifford Thier, Chair Michael Beauchamp, Vice Chair 12/15/21 7105460

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Proposals for: Building Improvements, at the Ansonia Early Care and Education Center at 80 Howard Avenue Ansonia, Connecticut, 06401 will be accepted until 12:00 pm on

80 Howard Avenue Ansonia, Connecticut, 06401 will be accepted until 12:00 pm on January 6, 2022 at the office of Team Inc. 30 Elizabeth Street, Derby, Connecticut 06418. At which time they will be opened and read. All potential bidders must provide contact information via email to edwrdly@sbcglobal. net prior to the mandatory walk-through scheduled December 18, 2021 at 9:00 am. Copy and paste the following link https://we.tl/t-baddOQlofQ to access bid documents via We Transfer. Proposals are to be mailed or hand delivered to Team Inc. at the Derby address above. Team Inc. is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minority business enterprises, women business enterprises are encouraged to apply. Team Inc. reserves the right to waive any informality, to reject any or all proposals or any part of any proposals when it is determined to be in their best interest. Team Inc. will not be responsible for any cost involved in the preparation of the quotation. Questions may be directed to Mr. Edward Leavy at edwrdly@sbcglobal.net 12/11 - 12/17/2021 7104619

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN Other Town in CT Howard Cary James C. Westover, II Out of State

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West Hartford Mary H. Flannery Denis Labrie Noreen Murnane Robert J. Winkler Ronald K. Winkler

Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### Cary, Howard



On Monday, December 6th, 2021, decorated Naval Korean War veteran and retired serviceman for the United States Postal Service, Howard Arthur Cary (87 years old) passed peacefully in his sleep at his Coventry residence on Ash Brook Drive; he was surrounded by his loved ones during his moments. final Born November 27th, 1934,

Waterbury, Vermont to father Elwood Cary and mother Grace, he first fell in love with his life's passion for fishing. If the word "passion" needed a tangible reference, in early March, you could find Howard packing his license, every rod and reel, pound-test fishing line, hook, and bobber he had in his tackle box to get ready for opening day; opening day in April....

The only other facet of his life which he got as excited to go out of the way an entire month in advance for, was his family. He is survived by his loving wife Donna of almost thirty-seven years, his sons Glen, Dennis, Shaun, Peter (deceased), and Joseph (deceased) as well as his daughters Florence and Heather. Howard was also blessed with eleven grandchildren, ten greatgrandchildren and three "grandpups" during his time. He shook your hand with a warm smile and always entertained with a story that would leave a chuckle in your gut. I will remember Howard strongly in the garage of his home where his fly rods are hanging on the walls and tools scattered throughout the bench. He will be forever missed and celebrated by his loving family in the years to come. Goodbyes are not forever and definitely not the end, it only means I'll miss you, until we see each other again. A celebration of life will be held on opening day of the 2022 fishing season (April 9th, 2022) to honor his love for fishing. A time will be coordinated at a future date. For online condolences, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

#### Combs, Michael S.



Michael Simms Combs, 62, of New Britain passed away He was born November 14, 1959 to the late Fred & Barbara Combs. He was predeceased by both his father & mother and his life-partner Dorothy Jackson. He is survived by daughters Ashley Combs of California, Taylor Combs of Ohio and

Shavonne Jackson of North Carolina; sisters Bridget Dunlap of Hartford & Valerie Combs of Bloomfield; brother Jason Combs of Bloomfield and a host of nieces & nephews. Memorial Service will be Thursday, December 16 at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, 222 Barbour Street, Hartford, at 12pm. All Faith is in charge of arrangements.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

#### Gomes Jr, Warren W.



Warren Wayne Gomes, Jr., 51 of Providence, RI was the son of Rosalie E. Forde and the late Warren Wayne Gomes, Sr. Warren was born on June 5,1970 in Hartford, CT and went to his eternal rest on December 7, 2021. Warren attended Simsbury High School where he was on the football and basketball teams. Warren

also attended Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island. Warren was known for his deep conversations, his infectious laugh and as a die-hard New England Patriot fan. He was a chef who cooked with great passion and master of the grill that showed his love by preparing you a great meal. Warren was a generous and caring person who always helped many people along the way. When he entered the room there was surely to be a party going on. He was part of

the infamous 3 Amigos...Warren, Tippy and Chris. Warren was a loving and devoted father to the one love of his life, his only son Keenan Gomes age 11. Warren leaves behind his mother Rosalie E. Forde of Hartford, CT; two sisters Linda Gomes from Lakeland, FL and Robin Gomes from Hartford, CT; three nieces Christina Gardner from Austin, TX, Indya Wilson and Joneisha Rogers both from Hartford, CT; two nephews Bobby Wilson Jr. from Hartford, CT and Jordan Blount from Austin, TX. Warren also leaves behind a host of uncles, aunts, cousins and a few special friends Nina and Coco from Rhode Island and Sharon from Georgia; and let's not forget his Earle Street Crew from Hartford, CT Visitation will be Friday, December 17, 2021 at 12:00 pm with the funeral to follow at 1:00 pm at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Rd, Windsor, C Please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com to attend the service remotely.



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#### **OBITUARIES**

#### **DellaRosa, Constance Diana**



Constance Diana DellaRosa, of East Hartford, passed away on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at Avery Heights in Hartford. Born August 23, 1930 in West Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Mary D'Aloia. She lived in Hartford and Bloomfield during the early part of her life and re-

ed from Hartford Public High School in 1948. From there she attended The Hartford Fashion School of Art. there she attended The Hartford Fashion School of Art. She enjoyed sketching and painting portraits, as well as growing a variety of plants which gave her great pleasure. She volunteered her time as a den leader for the Den 1 Cub Scouts and designed beautiful wedding cakes for her husband's catering service. She was also an avid reader of biographies and especially mysteries. She also enjoyed doing crossword puzzles and playing scrabble. Diana also enjoyed traveling with her husband to many places; such as Italy, Hawaii and the Caribbean and of course America. Diana was a department store manager in the gifts department at Sage Allen in East Hartford for many years until her retirement. She was also a member of St. Rose Church in ment. She was also a member of St. Rose Church in East Hartford.

Diana was a devoted wife to her late husband, Paul P. DellaRosa, mother to her late daughter Paula M. (DellaRosa) Durao and son-in-law, Victor Durao of East Berlin and Son, Steven DellaRosa of East Hartford, See Jacobs and State Della Rosa of East Hartford, See Jacobs and State Della Rosa of East Hartford. also survived by three grandsons, Christopher and wife Sara Durao of Manchester, Scott and wife Caitlyn Durao of East Berlin and Benjamin Durao of Glastonbury; a sister, Naomi and late brother-in-law Armand Simeone of Simsbury and brother George and sister-in-law, Sally D'Aloia of Bethlehem, assorted cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. Diana will be remembered for her quiet strength and unconditional love and beautiful smile. Her family would like to thank the caring staff at Avery Heights in Hartford for the wonderful care they gave Diana.

Family and friends are invited to a graveside service on Saturday, December 18th at 10:30 a.m. in Silver Lane Cemetery, 1312 Silver Lane, East Hartford. The D'Esopo-East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford has been entrusted with the care of funeral arrangements. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family please visit www.desopeh.com.



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#### McCashland, Elizabeth (McAllister)



Elizabeth "Beth" (McAllister) McCashland, 81 of Glastonbury, Connecticut, passed away on Monday, December 13, 2021. She was born to the late Gerald and Muriel (Marston) McAllister on November 7, 1940 and grew up on Judson Street in Mechanic Falls, Maine.
Beth attended Central Maine

General School of Nursing in Lewiston, Maine, class of 1962, and was a registered nurse working at Central Maine General Hospital in Lewiston, Maine, New Britain General Hospital and St. Francis Hospital, both in Connecticut, over the course of her 38-year career.

She met John Arthur McCashland on a blind date while She met John Arthur McCashland on a blind date while in nursing school after swearing off men. They married on leap day, February 29, 1964 - she let him pick the date. She became a mother in December 1965 to Catherine May and again in October 1976 to Judith Ann, Johanna Beth, Jean Catherine and Gerald Glenn. She raised her family with John until his abrupt passing at the young age of 47, then continued to raise them on her own, switching to working nights so she could be home during the day for them and never letting on how indescribably difficult it must have been without Dad. indescribably difficult it must have been without Dad,

while having the patience of a saint with all of us. She was active in her community over the years, teaching Sunday School at South Congregational Church in East Hartford, CT, a member of the Welcome Rebekah Lodge #47 for over 30 years and, of late, attending bingo at the Glastonbury Community Center - which she always looked forward to, even if she did not win. She was also an active member of Twin Mothers of Connecticut, which later became Mothers of Multiples for obvious reasons, serving on the national board and attending their yearly national conferences. She turned these conferences into family vacations - except for the time in New Orleans, when she left us behind with relatives. Beth was an avid fan of the UConn Women's basketball team, and loved bowling, playing bingo, and

animals. She loved her family so very much and enjoyed every minute with them, especially her grandchildren. She is predeceased by her parents, brother Charles McAllister and sister Ovis Pooler-Billington, husband John and son Gerald Glenn. Mourning her passing are daughters Cathy Gerke and her husband Christopher of Amston, CT, Judith Gass and her husband Travis of Brewer, ME, Johanna McCashland of Glastonbury with whom she made her home, and Jean Mumley and her husband Scott of South Windsor, along with grandson John Gerke, and granddaughters Ashley and Mary Catherine Mumley. She also leaves several nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

She has had so many health setbacks over the past fifteen years, but kept smiling that beautiful smile of hers through it all. Her strength of will shall continue to inspire us all. Her family wishes to thank all that cared for her over the years. As we mourn, we take solace in knowing she is enjoying some full +-belly clams in batter, a good bowling alley and loved ones who departed before her. Love you, Mom!

Visitation will be held at the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford on Friday, December 17, 2021 from 3 – 6 pm. Funeral service celebrating Beth's life will take place on Saturday morning (December 18, 2021) at 10 am at the funeral home chapel with Rev. Fredd Ward officiating. Interment will follow at Rose Hill Memorial Park, (Section 23D), Elm Street, Rocky Hill. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Beth's memory to the South Congregational Church Memorial Fund, 1301 Forbes Street, East Hartford, CT 06118, the American Heart Association, 5 Brookside Drive, Wallingford, CT 06492, or the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoeh.com.



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#### Johnson, Wallace H.



Wallace H. Johnson, 89, of Ellington, beloved husband of 30 years to Sheila (Bragg) Johnson, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Decémber 7, 2021. Born in Finley, North Dakota, the son of the late Hjalmar and Anna (Olson) Jóhnson, he grew up and lived in Finley, and has lived in Vernon for most of his life, re-

Vernon for most of his life, recently moving to Ellington. Wallace proudly served his Country in the U. S. Navy during the Korean War. He was a letter carrier in Hartford for the U. S. Postal Service for 40 years before his retirement in 1997. He was a loving and dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and friend who enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Debra Johnson of Vernon, Wallace Johnson, Jr. of North Grosvenordale, and Sandra Poulin and her husband Dwayne of Manchester: Wallace Johnson, Jr. of North Grosvenordale, and Sandra Poulin and her husband Dwayne of Manchester; seven grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; his brother, Edward Johnson and his wife Jeanette of St. Paul, MN, and several nieces and nephews. He was also predeceased by his first wife, Marion (Dimanno) Johnson (1987), his daughter Karen Haley (2014) and his son-in-law Samuel Haley (2017). Graveside services will be held on Friday, December 17, 2021 at 10 a.m. at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, 1 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield with military honors. Ladd-Turkington & Carmon Funeral Home in Vernon is caring for the arrangements. For online condolences and guest book, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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#### Labrie, Denis



Labrie, Newington, loving husband to Fernande (Dube) passed away on Saturday, December 4th at Hartford Hospital. A Mass of Christian burial will take place on Saturday, December 18th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Church in Newington. Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial is serving the family.

To read his full obituary or to watch the Mass on livestream, please visit Denis' obituary page at www. duksa.net.



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#### Lapuk, Marvin H.



Marvin H. Lapuk (Marv) was born March 27, 1931, in Hartford, CT., and died at home in Avon on December 12, 2021, after heroic battles against Alzheimer's Disease and cancer. He was the son of the late Sarah (Israel) and David Lapuk and the stepson of Birdie (Mazur) Lapuk. He was predeceased by his younger brother Seýmour. Marv leaves his wife of 57

years, Sara, children Steven Lapuk of West Hollywood, CA, Karen Lapuk (Eric Apgar) of Mansfield and grandson David Apgar.

Mary suffered the catastrophic loss of his mother and he survived. Despite this early trauma Marv was a gentle, kind and honest man, loved by all of us who had the privilege of knowing him. He developed fast friend-ships throughout his life, often referring fondly to his skiing, golfing, racquet ball and paddle tennis partners as his "guys." He was a fine athlete and continued to enjoy racquet sports and golf well into his 80's.

His peers recognized his abilities by selecting him as a leader from an early age. At UCONN he was president of his fraternity. Marv remained an avidly devoted UCONN basketball fan and had season tickets to the men's and women's games for years. (It was only fitting that his beloved David was born in March, 1999, when UCONN won both NCAA basketball championships.) He was the treasurer of the CT Association of Attorneys-CPA and was on the Board of Directors of the Hartford Hospital Association. While a Jaycee he was a chairman of the Traveler's Golf Tournament (ICO, 1966). In 2003 he was honored by the Jaycee Past President's Association with the Ralph Hart Award for dedicated service. One of his proudest accomplishments was serving as the chairman of the national American Golf Sponsor's Committee. He was on the founder's committee for the Simsbury Farms Golf Course and helped develop the Mountain Farms Homeowner's Association in Simsbury. At the Golf Club of Avon where he belonged for 35 years he served on the Board of Directors.

After serving in the US Army as a first lieutenant, Marv used the GI Bill to attend the UCONN Law School at night, working as an accountant by day. He passed the CPA and CT Bar Exams within 3 months of each other and began his law practice with the Hons. Norris O'Neill and Joseph Steinberg. He maintained close connections with many of his subsequent partners as the firm expanded and merged and served as the managing partner of Levy and Droney, PC, for several years. He was a natural mentor to several appreciative young firm members and was honored by the CT Bar Association after 50 years of membership in 2007.

When Marv retired he became an active golf and paddle tennis member at Farmington Woods where he developed wonderful relationships with a new set of 'guys." He was supported and loved by his Farmington Woods bowling buddies, who showed him unerring kindness and patience through his final seasons. Sadly the pandemic kept him isolated from the social contact that nourished him.

Marv was comforted and cared for through the end stages of his illnesses by the wonderful Hospice team from Hartford Healthcare at Home, especially his case manager, Kathleen, and his aide, Maria. His daily care was managed compassionately and competently by ComForCare's aide-in-chief, Vinnie, and his nights were watched over by the kind and tireless Anthony. Marv's

family is infinitely grateful to all his caregivers The family requests that donations designated in Mary's memory be made to The National Processing Center, Alzheimer's Association-CT, PO Box 96011, Washington, DC, 20090-6011. A private service was held at graveside. There are no calling hours.

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#### **OBITUARIES**



George Thomas Molleur, age 88, passed away peacefully on December 10th surrounded by his wife and children at Sturgill Hospice House in Brooksville,

Born in New Britain, CT on December 6, 1933 to the late George J. Molleur and A. Norma Molleur, he was a resident of Suffield CT, Gilford NH, Bow NH, and Homosassa FL.

He was a veteran of the US Air Force and a graduate of Western New England College He retired from WPI Magnetec in Warner, NH as Vice President of Sales & Marketing in 1999.

Molleur, George

He leaves his beloved wife and best companion Marianne (Aurre) Molleur and his golden retriever Marley. He was the proud father of six children, Theresa M. Currier and her husband Scott of New Harbor, Maine, Robert T. Molleur of Manassas, VA, Paul F. Molleur and his wife Maureen of Houston, TX, Patricia A. Rapacki and her husband James of Montgomery, TX, Thomas J. Molleur and his wife Sharon of Holyoke, MA. He was predeceased by his daughter Mary Beth Molleur.

He was the proud grandfather of ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

George (Tom) loved the mountains, the lakes and the seacoast. He enjoyed fishing and boating on Lake Winnipesaukee in New Hampshire, a favorite family vacation spot that is still enjoyed by his children and grandchildren. He also loved his travels with his wife Marianne to the Caribbean, Alaska, Canada and Europe.

His family will receive friends on Saturday, December 18, 2021 from 10:30-11:30 AM at Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home, 443 East St. N. (Rt. 159). Suffield followed by funeral services at 11:30 AM at the funeral large of Saturday Sufficients. home. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Suffield. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON Community Funeral Homes www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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#### McCain, Sarah V.



Sarah V. McCain, 93, of Bristol, widow of Russell F. McCain, passed away on Tuesday (December 14, 2021) at Bristol Hospital. She was born in New Haven on March 29, 1928 to Adeline (Notarfrancesco) and Dominick Villecco.

Sarah absolutely loved life and was very active. She enjoyed playing tennis, as well as golf at Chippanee Country Club where she was a longtime member. She loved warm weather, being in the sun,

and winters in Florida. Sarah is survived by her sons David McCain and his wife Margarita of Coral Gables, FL, and Timothy McCain and his wife Debra of Hopkinton, MA; her sister Mary Sweeney of Bristol; her grandchildren Daniel McCain, John Farias, Christopher McCain, and Courtney McCain; as well as nieces and nephews who were like sons daughters to her: Judy DeFillippi, Kevin Sweeney, Karen Scalia, and Betsy Corbin.

In addition to her parents and her beloved husband Russell, Sarah is predeceased by her brothers Carmine Villecco and Hugo Villecco.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday (December 16, 2021) from 9:30 - 10:30 AM at Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol, to St. Gregory the Great Church, 235 Maltby St., Bristol for a Mass of Christian Burial at 11 AM. At the request of Sarah's family, masks are required. Burial will follow in Saint Joseph Cemetery, Bristol. To visit Sarah's memorial website please visit www.FunkFuneralHome.com



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#### Murphy, Catherine M. (Weitzel)

Catherine Mary (Weitzel) Murphy, 91 of Prospect St. in Northampton, MA peacefully entered into eternal rest December 11, 2021 at home surrounded by her beloved

Funeral services will be on Friday December 17 at 9
AM from CZELUSNIAK FUNERAL HOME, 173 North St. in
Northampton, followed by a Liturgy of Christian Buriah at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 99 King St., at 10 AM and committal at St. Mary's Cemetery. Calling hours will be held on Thursday December 16 from 4-7 PM. By order of the Northampton Board of Health, all guests will be required to wear a face covering. For online condolences, please visit Czelusniakfuneralhome.com. Memorials can be made to the Cooley Dickinson VNA, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton MÁ 01060, and the Edward P. Boland (Leeds) VAMC, 421 North Main St. Leeds, MA 01053.

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#### Winkler, Robert J. & Ronald K.



Ronald Winkler (Ron), 73, of West Hartford, passed away on December 2, 2021. His twin brother Robert Winkler (Bob), 73, of West Hartford, also passed away a few days later on December 6, 2021. Ronald and Robert graduated Conard High School in 1967. After having worked long great years for the City of Hartford they retired in their 50s. Their great dedication and work will great dedication and work will never be forgotten. Ronald and Robert were

inseparable twins. Even in their retirement they spent it together as the best buds they were. Their normal routine consisted of going out for a bite to get some breakfast and then doing some shopping and hanging out with their closest friends. Ronald and Robert were the most amazing, caring, compassionate, selfless, and understanding twins anyone could have ever met. They impacted the life of all those whom surrounded them. They will be greatly missed. The unconditional love and joy they brought to many lives will be the ones we treasure forever. The Winkler brother's funeral will be held on December 18th, 2021 with visitation starting at 8:30 a.m. until the start of the funeral service at 10:00 a.m., at the Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Ronald and Robert will be lovingly laid to rest with committal prayers in Fairview Cemetery in West Hartford. To



share a memory, please visit us at www.duksa.net

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*isit the obituary section on courant.com* to share memories of loved ones.

#### Flannery, Mary H.

Mary H. Flannery, 97, of Hartford, CT passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 9, 2021. Mary was born on Memorial (Declaration) Day in 1924 at Saint Francis Hospital. She graduated from Mount Saint Joseph Academy in 1942 and that same year began working at Aetna Life Insurance Company in the Mortgage Department. After 42 years of service, she retired from the Aetna. She was a life-long parishioner of Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Mary was a wonderful aunt, and we fondly remember her Saturday visits where she treated us to cakes, rye bread and hard rolls brought at Ems Bakery, annual trips to Riverside Park when school got out, yearly vacations to the Cape and thousands of pictures she took of family events. Mary was fortunate to have many life-long friends that she stayed in touch with over the years. Mary was very thoughtful and sent birthday and holiday cards to family and friends. She will be remembered for her generosity, quick-wit and always ready to go out to dinner with anyone available. She was a wonderful daughter, sister, aunt, and friend.

Mary is survived by her nephews Sean and Ray, her niece Catherine (Paul), her great nieces and nephew Mary (Kirk), Megan and Christopher (Tara) and her great-great niece and nephew Layla and Beckett. Mary was preceded in death by her parents James and Katherine, her sister Sarah, brother-in-law John, nephew James, and Cousin Tim.

Funeral Services will be Friday, December 17, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 am at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 79 New Park Ave. Hartford. Burial will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Friends and family may call from 8:30-9:30 am at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave. West Hartford on Friday prior to Mass.

Donations can be made in her memory to Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 79 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 or Missionaries of La Salette, 85 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. Directions and online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

> Molloy Juneral Home 906 FARMINGTON AVENUE WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06119

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#### Tishler, Dr. Steven

Dr. Steven "Cy" Tishler, 75, of Mansfield and Old Saybrook, passed away on October 25, 2021 at Middlesex Hospital. He was the son of the late Marcia (Karotkin) and Paul Tishler. He was a graduate of Weaver High School, Fairleigh Dickinson University and the New England College of Optometry. Dr. Tishler practiced for over 45 years in Mansfield, specializing in children's vision. He was very respected in this field and had "Generations of Patients". An avid fan of Corvettes, he owned many over the years. He especially enjoyed many summers at the family cottage on Chapman Beach in Westbrook. He is survived by his wife Patricia R. Dileo, his nephews Dr. Darren Tishler (Stefanie) and Kevin Tishler (Brooke) and his sister-in-law Gail Tishler and special friend Sheryl Wexler. He was predeceased by his brother Dr. Ronald Tishler and his sister Myrna Keryc. A private funeral service was held with Rabbi David Small officiating at the Emanuel Cemetery in Wethersfield. The Hebrew Funeral Association was in

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#### Westover II, James C.



October 1, 1955-December 4, James C. Westover II, 66,

passed away peacefully on December 4, 2021. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Betty J. Westover. His two sons; James C. Westover III with wife, Melissa Westover and Michael L. Westover with his significant other Emma Coffey. His three grand-

children; Madison L. Westover, Phoenix S. Smith and Arianna M. Smith. His mother; Lorraine M. Orsini and sister; Norine J. Phillips. As well as several nieces and nephews. James is predeceased by his father; James C. Westover and his grandmother; Muriel E. Turenne. Family and friends are invited to attend Calling Hours on Saturday December 18, 2021 from 11:00am-1:30pm at the Newkirk and Whitney Funeral Home 318 Burnside Ave. East Hartford, CT. 06108. Funeral Home Services will begin at 1:30pm, followed by military honors will be held at 2:00pm. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.NewkirkandWhitney. com for the Westover family. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in his name to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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#### Wilson, Bruce A.



Bruce A. Wilson, 72, passed away at Midstate Hospital on Thursday December 9, 2021. He was surrounded by his loving wife of 27 years, Irene Wilson, his step-son Vijay Summersong and daughterin-law Sarah Labieniec. Bruce was born on June 16, 1949 to the late Robert Wilson and Helena (Bunnell) Wilson. Prior to his retirement, Bruce

worked with his father, "Bob", in their Painting and Wallpapering business. He had many creative talents. He was a jack of all trades, a master painter and woodworker. He had an impeccable work ethic. His customers waited for his availability, sometimes months, for him to bestow his professional talents to beautify their homes. Bruce had a charming wit, always the jokester to make others laugh. Bruce loved animals which showed in how he cared for and loved his family pets. Bruce excelled as an athlete and Martial Arts Instructor. He shared his passion for Karate with his wife and delighted in training many students in the art of Shobayashi Shorin-Ryu. He achieved the rank of 10th Degree Grand Master. In January 2018 he was inducted into the Middletown Hall of Fame for his accomplishments in Baseball and Karate. Despite difficulties with chronic pain management, as a result of spinal surgery in 2001, Bruce continued to persevere! He remained dilignetly active, as he was able, maintaining activities, hobbies and family life. Bruce will be remembered for his youthful smile and genuine kindness. He was always willing to lend a helping hand. Bruce, you remain in our hearts as a devoted, loving husband and partner in life, a caring stepfather and loyal friend. May the Angels carry you home and may you rest in Peace. Visiting hours will be held on Sunday (Dec. 19th) from 4 to 7 p.m. at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown. Graveside services will be Monday (Dec. 20th) at 1 p.m. at Rose Hill Memorial Park, Rocky Hill. To share memories or express condolences online please visit www. biegafuneralhome.com.

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hare memories, express condolences, and celebrate life in the obituary section on courant.com.

#### Murnane, Noreen Walsh



Noreen Murnane (nee Walsh), long time resident of West Hartford, CT, passed away Monday peacefully December 13, 2021. Born to James and Elizabeth Walsh on February 17th in County Cork, Ireland, Noreen emigrated to the US from the Village of Castletownroche in 1963 through family friend Billy While living in O'Connor.

Hartford, Noreen met her husband Pat at the original Irish American Home Society on Grove Street in Hartford. They were married at the Cathedral of St. Joseph on September 14, 1968. Noreen is survived by her son Mark Murnane and his wife Jennifer of Avon as well as her Sister Brigid and Brother Bill of County Cork, Ireland. She was predeceased by her brother Ned. Noreen proudly obtained her US Citizenship in 1996. Noreen and Pat were married 32 years before Pat passed away in 2000. Noreen most enjoyed her trips back to Ireland, where she would visit with friends and family. Noreen enjoyed playing golf at Wampanoag trips back to Ireland, where she would visit with friends and family. Noreen enjoyed playing golf at Wampanoag Country Club and at Cross Creek Country Club in Fort Myers, Florida where she would spend time in the winter. Noreen enjoyed Irish Music, going to the beach, dogs (especially her Granddog George) and watching golf on TV. On June 22, 2017, Noreen had the great honor of meeting her favorite golfer Rory McIlroy at The Travelers Championship. Calling hours will be held on Thursday December 16, 2021 from 4-6 pm at Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, 301 Country Club Road, Avon CT. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday December 17, 2021 at 10 am at the Church of St. Ann, 289 Arch Road, Avon CT. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, 200 Whitman Ave., West Hartford. In lieu of flowers, the family would welcome donations in Noreen's name to First Tee of Connecticut, 55 Golf in Noreen's name to First Tee of Connecticut, 55 Golf Club Road, Cromwell, CT 06416. For condolences or directions please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

**CARMON** www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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#### Mitchell, Helena Lillian (Main)



HELENA LILLIAN MITCHELL - A devotedly loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, and aunt

Helena Lillian Main Mitchell,

83, born January 7, 1938, in Crystal, ME, passed on Saturday, December 11 in Vernon, CT. Her lovingly devoted husband of 67 years,

Linwood Paul "Mitch" Mitchell, originally of Patten, ME, was by her side.

The couple married in 1953 after Paul was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army following two tours during the Korean War. They lived in Storrs, CT for 46

Helena was predeceased by her parents, Alfred William Main, and Doris Clair Grant; her youngest son, Steven Linwood Mitchell, previously married to Michelle Mitchell; her brother Roy and his wife, Nancy Main; her granddaughter, Tabitha Jean Gaudreau; and her adopted son, Joey Gaudreau-Mitchell.

She was mother to Alice Lynne Mitchell-King, and her husband, Ronald King; Keith Arland Mitchell, and his wife, Barbara Branagan-Mitchell; and adopted son, Carlos Gaudreau-Mitchell.

Helena was grandmother to Jason King; Keith Arland Mitchell, Jr., and his wife, Nicole Mitchell; Joe Mitchell; Paul King; and Ian Mitchell.

She was sister to Joyce Chambers, previously married to Bernie Braun and then Ronald Chambers (both deceased); Rev. Stephen Main, and his wife Gwen; and Rev. Peter Main, and his wife, Joan.

She was a great grandmother to Matthew Linwood King; Jamielynn Ann King; Kaden Russi; and Savannah Mitchell; and aunt to numerous nieces and nephews across the country.

Helena's family wishes to extend their sincere gratitude to devoted neighbor and friend, Dawn Marquis, and the staff of Fox Hill Center in Vernon.

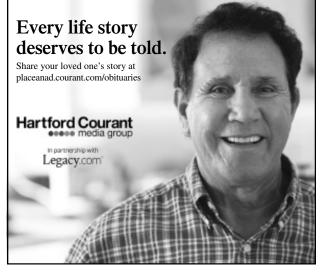
In lieu of flowers, her family encourages donations to the American Cancer Society and appreciates each donors' generosity.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tolland Memorial Funeral Home at 375 Merrow Road #3935, Tolland, CT, 860-875-1415.

Burial services will be private at Abington Cemetery in Pomfret Center, CT at a future date.

For online condolences please visit: www.pietrasfuner-

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#### **OBITUARIES**

#### **Keast, Shirley**

Shirley Keast of Bristol, Connecticut passed away on December 12, 2021, at the age of 93, surrounded by her family. Shirley was born on February 3, 1928. The daughter of a newspaper editor and a wonderful cook, she grew up in Oxford, New York, where she had a very happy childhood with her sisters Jeanne and Katie and her brother Joel. As a teenager, she worked for her father's newspaper, writing stories and setting type. In 1951, she married George Stanley Keast, a Congregational minister in Oxford, and together they raised five children, eventually settling in

Shirley was a wonderful mom who loved and encouraged all of her children in their wide-ranging interests. She instilled in them a love of the outdoors, taking them for hikes, picnics, and swimming along the Natchaug River and to many state parks and beaches. She was very creative with sewing, braiding rugs, and refinishing furniture. In the church, she sang in the choir and was active in many groups; she especially enjoyed directing the annual Christmas

For 20 years, Shirley worked at Oak Hill School for the Blind in Hartford, first as a teaching assistant and later as personal assistant to the school's principal. In her retirement, she began painting, and became an accomplished pastel artist. She also enrolled in Tunxis Community College, where she took several writing classes and eventually created a book of her own poetry.

Shirley is survived by her sister Jeanne; brother Joel and his wife Keiko; daughter Lucy; son Stanley and his wife Angela; daughter Jane and her partner Jean; son Peter and his wife Mary; daughter Anne and her husband Tony; grandchildren Peter, Julian, Lucy, Matthew, Katie, and Nicole; and eleven great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband George Stanley, sister Katie, and grandson Steven.

In recent years, Shirley was able to stay in her beloved home in Bristol; this was made possible with the help of her very dear friends Claire Adams, Linda Cyr, and Dave Vandenheuvel.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 18, at 1:00 p.m. at the Luddy & Peterson's Funeral Home, 205 S. Main St. in New Britain; the service will be followed by a gathering at Shirley's home in Bristol.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Vincent de Paul Middletown to benefit their food pantry, soup kitchen, and services for the homeless.

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#### Youngs, Joan

Joan Marie Sieverts Youngs of East Hampton, CT passed into eternal life on December 12, 2021 in her home surrounded by her family after a brief illness. She was 91 years old. She was born in New Rochelle, NY on February 9, 1930 to the late Edna Kopins Sieverts and Frederick Rankin Sieverts. She was raised in New Rochelle until her family moved to CT. It is there that she met the love of her life the late John Arthur Youngs. she met the love of her life, the late John Arthur Youngs. They were married in 1951 at St Patrick's Church in East Hampton where they raised their 4 daughters and

lived together for the rest of their lives. Joan graduated from the Ursuline School for Girls in New Rochelle and went on to earn her BS in Sociology and Psychology from Eastern CT State College. She spent her entire life and career in service to others. As a teenager, she knitted scarves for the soldiers serving in WWII. As a young mother, she volunteered at St Patricks Church, the PTA and Girl Scouts. One of her greatest accomplishments was advocating for her daughter Patricia, who was physically handicapped, to be educated in the local schools. Because of Joan's persistence and advocacy, Patricia was one of the first mainstreamed special needs students in the state of CT paving the way for other children with special needs.

Joan was a distinguished community leader. She began volunteering at Red Cross Blood Drives in the early 60s which began her 37 years of working with the American Red Cross, 25 of them as the Executive Director of the Middlesex County Red Cross Chapter. During her 25 years as head of the Chapter, Joan started a Fuel Bank to assist those in need of heating fuel, a Food Bank, an Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Program, Emergency Shelters for Families with Children, Assistance to Military Families during the Viet Nam War and more. There was no one who walked through the doors that she turned away. After her retirement from the Red Cross in 1997, Joan

continued to be involved in the community. She served on the executive board of Gilead Community Services. She was on the board of the Community Foundation of Middlesex County where she served on their Grants Committee. She was a board member of St Luke's Eldercare Services. She volunteered with the Middlesex United Way. She helped start the East Hampton Food and Fuel Bank and volunteered there until recently She was proud of the Thanksgiving Food Baskets that she helped coordinate each year.

Her years of service and leadership in the commu-nity earned her many awards including the Rotary Club-Paul Harris Award, The Lions Club-Melvin Jones Humanitarian Award, East Hampton Village Lions Club Citizen of the Year, and the St Luke's Home-Catherine Rees Volunteer Excellence Award. In November 2011, for the annual Food Bank fundraiser, "The Turkey Plunge" in Lake Pocotopaug, Joan was the oldest participant at 81 years young! Most recently, the Mayor of Middletown, CT proclaimed April 11, 2019 as Joan S Youngs Day because of her years of selfless service to

the community!

Youngs Day because of her years of selfless service to the community!

Left to cherish her memory are her 2 daughters: Mary Ellen Youngs Cohen-Shohet of Palm Coast, FL and Nancy Youngs Wilcox (Bruce) of Norfolk, VA. Her 10 Grandchildren: Sandra Joanne Youngs, Rachel Cohen-Shohet (Felipe Cadavid), Danielle Cohen-Shohet, Leah Cohen-Shohet, Katrin Wilcox Beath (David), Jonathan Wilcox (Grace), Henry Wilcox (Pam), Andrew Wilcox, Margaret Wilcox Simone (Ryan) and Charles Wilcox. Her 8 Great Grandchildren: Will and Arthur Beath, Walker and George Wilcox, Elizabeth, Bruce and Benjamin Wilcox, and Charlotte Simone. Her son in law Allen Strecker, Her brother, Frederick Sieverts and many special cousins, nieces and nephews. Joan was predeceased by her husband John Arthur Youngs. Daughters Patricia Youngs Strecker and Joanne Youngs Stupnitski. Her grandson Matthew Strecker, and her son in laws John Cohen Shohet and Peter Stupnitski.

Joan lived a faith filled life of unselfish service to others. She was genuinely interested in everyone she met. She was able to spend her last few summers at her "happy place" in Rhode Island thanks to her dedicated caregiver, Galina. She loved her family and leaves behind a remarkable legacy.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to any the above mentioned charities that meant so much to Joan.

Visitation will be Thursday. December 16 from 5:00-

Visitation will be Thursday, December 16 from 5:00-7:00PM at Spencer Funeral Home 112 Main St East Hampton. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, December 17 at 11:00AM at St Patrick's Church in East Hampton. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

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#### Sergeant III, Frederick W.



Frederick W. Sergeant III, 79, of Scottsdale, AZ, was re-united with his wife Greta and our heavenly father on November 22, 2021. Frederick passed peacefully at home with loved ones and caregiv-

passed peacefully at home with loved ones and caregivers by his side. Fred was born January 6, 1942, to Hilda Hosking and Frederick W. Sergeant II, in Claremont, NH. Fred attended Greenfield High School and continued his studies at UMass Amherst before joining the United States Navy. Frederick was a Communications Officer who served during the Vietnam War time and was deployed aboard the U.S.S Independence Aircraft Carrier during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Fred married his first wife, Barbara, in 1974 and together they raised their two children in Hartford, CT. Frederick was a member of the Knights of Columbus and enjoyed being involved in city politics. Fred returned to his faith and joined Asylum Hill Congregational Church where he not only married Margarethe "Greta" Hopkins in 1998, but where he was also a member of the choir and later became a minister. Fred was extremely passionate about sharing his love of cooking with anyone and everyone. His talents and skills in the kitchen shined throughout his career as both a chef and catering company owner. In 2017, Fred and Greta moved to Scottsdale, AZ to enjoy their retirement at the base of the camelback mountains. In addition to Greta, Fred is preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Cheryl Wright. Frederick is suraddition to Greta, Fred is preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Cheryl Wright. Frederick is survived by his sisters, Patricia Carme of Greenfield MA and Maureen Lewis of Erving MA, his son Christian Sergeant of Scottsdale AZ, daughter Colleen Miller of Prictal CT, step-son Philip Hopkins and his wife Retsy of Bristol CT, step-son Philip Hopkins and his wife Betsy of West Hartford CT, step-daughter Virginia Hopkins and her husband Matthew Cullina of Providence RI. Also left behind are the true blessings of his life, his grand-children, Connor Sergeant, Michael Miller, Zoe Sergeant, Elise Gallegos and her husband Connor, Abby Hopkins, Ciara Cullina, Alexis Cullina, and Emilia Cullina, as well as his many nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service as his many nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will be held at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford, CT on Wednesday December 29, 2021 at 1:00 pm EST. A livestream option will also be available via www.ahcc.org

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

#### IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of **JESSICA ANNE TALBOT** 12/15/1973 - 8/25/1996

Happy 48th Birthday Jessica

We will all take a moment on your birthday to remember the special memories we have of you, Jessica. You brough such light into all of our lives and touched us all in your own unique way. You meant so much to each one of us and we miss you every day. Please continue to watch over us and always know how much we love you.

Love, Your Glastonbury Friends



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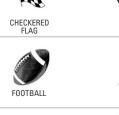
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Ask us for our listing of emblems and how we can help you personalize your loved one's obituary.































Hartford Courant

# CONNECTICUT

COURANT.COM/CONNECTICUT

**CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT** 

## COVID-19 positivity rate jumps above 8%

Surge likely to last at least a few more weeks

By Alex Putterman Hartford Courant

A day after recording an unusually low COVID-19 positivity rate, Connecticut on Tuesday reported that more than 8% of new tests had come back positive, one of the highest rates of any day during the

current coronavirus surge.

Meanwhile, the state experienced another sharp increase in the number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19, continuing a recent trend.

Dr. Ajay Kumar, chief clinical officer at Hartford HealthCare, said he expects Connecticut's

current COVID-19 spike to continue for at least a few more weeks.

"We think [hospitalizations are] going to continue to rise at the moment and hopefully settle down sometime in early January when we'll start to see a plateau and then a decline," Kumar said.

Dr. David Banach, an epidemiologist at UConn Health, said Tuesday he was concerned with Connecticut's recent level of new cases but encouraged that the state had far fewer hospitalizations than at this time a year ago.

"There is reason for some optimism from that perspective, and I think a lot of that is attributable to vaccination," he said.

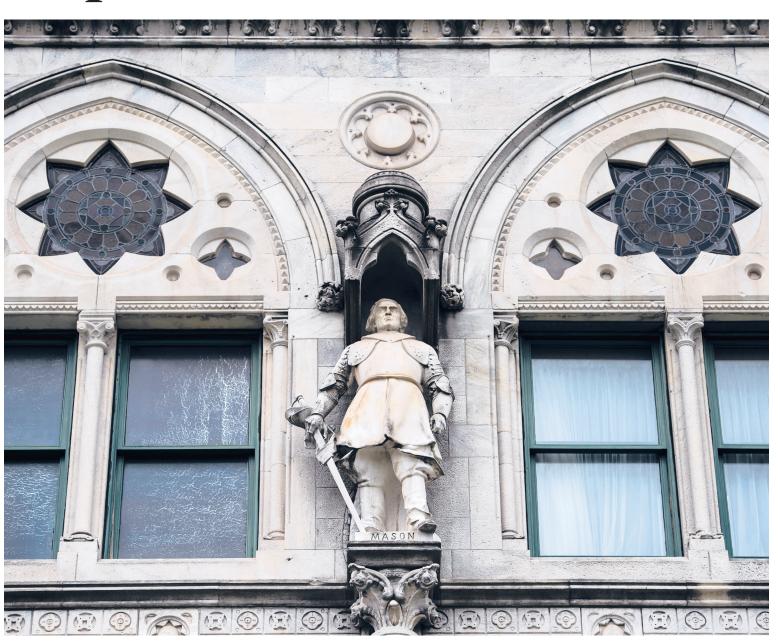
Tuesday marked the one-year anniversary of the first COVID-19 doses administered in Connecticut. Over the past 12 months, more than 5.8 million doses of the vaccine have been distributed in the state, according to Gov. Ned Lamont's office.

In a statement, Lamont thanked health care workers who had facilitated Connecticut's vaccine roll-

"Thanks to all of these dedicated individuals, Connecticut continues

Turn to COVID-19, Page 2

# Capitol statue's future uncertain



A statue of John Mason, leader of the massacre of the Pequot Tribe, is seen above the north steps at the Connecticut state Capitol. COURANT FILE PHOTO

John Mason, a colonial leader, has been accused of genocide for his role in the Pequot Massacre

By Mark Pazniokas CT Mirror

Renewed hostilities over the Pequot War of 1636-1638 failed Tuesday to resolve whether John Mason, a Connecticut colonial leader who nearly eradicated the Pequot tribe, deserves a place of honor at the state Capitol.

The state Capitol Preservation and Restoration Commission splintered over whether a marble statue of Mason should remain in the niche it has occupied for more than a century above the north portico of the Capitol.

A plurality of six on the 12-member advisory panel voted to recommend leaving Mason in place, three voted for his removal and three demanded clearer direction from legislative leaders who have ultimate control over the building.

A final decision on the statue will now likely be left to the six top leaders of the General Assembly. They sit on the Legislative Management Committee that has ultimate control of the building.

At Tuesday's meeting, no one questioned Mason's role in a pre-dawn raid in 1637 that ended with his troops setting afire a fortified Pequot village, killing hundreds of men, women and children and crippling what had been the region's dominant tribe.

He also influenced the Treaty of Hartford that not only

**Turn to Statue,** Page 2

#### HARTFORD'S SOUTH END

# Neighborhood shaken after shooting deaths of man, 19, and woman, 20

By Christine Dempsey and Seamus McAvoy Hartford Courant

A young couple found dead in a home in a quiet Hartford neighborhood Monday died in a murder-suicide, the state Office of the Chief Medical Examiner said

Deandre Faison, 19, and Alicia Underwood, 20, were found in the first-floor apartment of the two-family house at 47-45 Fenwick St.

The medical examiner's office said Faison died by suicide while Underwood died by homicide. The two were in a dating relationship, police said.

Hartford police are continuing to actively investigate the incident with several pieces of additional evidence.

"Please note that this is an extremely active investigation,

with several different theories and possible scenarios at play," Lt. Aaron Boisvert said.

#### 'A good kid'

Neighbors were shaken Tuesday. Fenwick Street, near Goodwin Park and the Wethersfield line, is not known for violent crime, and Faison, who lived in the first-floor apartment with his family, did not get in trouble, they said.

"I'm trying to understand, because he hasn't been involved in that type of lifestyle" that would lead to him being killed, said neighbor Michelle McArthur. She described Faison as "soft-spoken" young man who helped his mother with his siblings, who are much younger.

"He's a good kid," she said. Brian Starks, another neighbor, said Faison was dating Underwood and didn't go out much. "He never went out of the house," Starks said. "Just stayed in with his girl."

Officers were dispatched to the scene about 6 p.m. after someone called 911 and reported finding a body with a gunshot wound, police said. It's not clear why the caller didn't see the second victim.

Both Faison and Underwood were pronounced dead on scene, police said.

## 'Maybe I could have saved their lives'

A Massachusetts woman named Janeliz was visiting her aunt and cousins upstairs from the scene at the time of the shooting. She said she didn't realize the banging sound they heard was gunshots; she thought someone was

Turn to Shooting, Page 2

#### FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

# After gun arrest, phony 'threat,' frustration and reassurances mix at forum

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

Frustrated parents demanded more information Monday night about the supposed shooting threat at Farmington High School, while school administrators and police replied there's little more they can say except to reassure that it wasn't a genuine threat.

Social media accounts have badly distorted what actually happened, educators said, and the arrest of a 14-year-old on Monday in an entirely unrelated gun incident created more confusion in the community.

"How am I supposed to know if it's safe to send my child to school tomorrow?" one woman asked at a community forum Monday night, drawing applause from about 30 others. The timing of Farmington High School's incidents has ramped up concern in town, since they came just a month after a student shot four others dead at a Michigan high school.

Tuesday was the ninth anniversary of the Sandy Hook massacre, and students have been arrested this month in connection with threats in New Haven, Norwalk, Danbury, Greenwich, Hamden and Ansonia.

In Farmington's case, there's been no indication of any real threat against the school or students. School administrators and police blame escalating — and half-true or phony — rumors on social media for frightening much of the community, but many of the 100 parents at a safety forum

Turn to Forum, Page 2



#### **FARMINGTON**

## Passenger dies after rollover crash on I-84 on her birthday

**By Christine Dempsey** 

Hartford Courant

A Hartford woman died on her birthday after the car she was in sideswiped a pickup truck on I-84 in Farmington, went off the highway and rolled over, state police

The deadly crash happened about 7 p.m. Sunday, Daisha Moesha Lewis' 25th birthday, they

State police said the crash happened when Lewis was a

passenger in a 2013 Nissan Rogue headed west in a left lane near Exit 39. The driver, Shadajai Christine Collins, 25, of New Britain, lost control and sideswiped a 2013 Ford F-250 Supercab in the center lane.

The Nissan went to the left, through a guardrail and overturned in the grassy median, landing on its left side, police said.

The pickup driver, Ronald D. Boire, 60, of Warwick, N.Y., was able to drive to the shoulder. Neither he nor his passenger, Faith Ferguson-Polman, 58, also of Warwick, N.Y., was injured, state police said.

Both Lewis and Collins were taken to UConn Health, where Lewis died, police said. Collins appeared to have minor injuries.

Anyone who saw the crash or was driving through the area with a dashboard camera is asked to call the investigator, Trooper John Wilson, at 860-534-1098 or email him at john.wilson@ct.gov

Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.



This two-family house on Fenwick Street in Hartford was the scene of the shooting deaths of two young adults Monday evening. CHRISTINE DEMPSEY/HARTFORD COURANT

#### Shooting

hammering a nail to hang a picture frame or the neighbor's kids were

Hartford might have frame or the neighbor's kids were playing around, she said. No one heard screams or anything else that would indicate the gravity of what happened. She asked that her last name not be printed.

The first hint that something terrible had happened was when police pounded on the door, asked if they're OK and told them to lock their doors and stay away from them. She hid with her cousins, who are 13, 8 and 7, in the back of the apartment until the police returned and told them about the shooting

When she heard about the deaths, she said, "I felt absolutely devastated, and in complete shock because I can only imagine how that family must feel. In a way, it kind of haunts me cuz I feel like if I could have heard something I could have done something sooner and maybe I could have saved their lives."

#### its deadliest year in decades

Underwood's death is the 34th homicide in Hartford this year and follows a day after the murder-suicide of a husband and wife in Simsbury, a dozen miles

Hartford is poised to record one of its deadliest years in decades, having topped its recent highs of 32 murders in 2015 and 33 in 2009.

Should killings continue, the total number of homicides in 2021 may be rivaled only by the late '80s and early '90s, when homicides peaked nationwide and gang wars raged in Hartford, and by 2003, when an arson at the Greenwood Health Center killed 16 in a single

The increase in murders is similar to what other cities in Connecticut and across the nation have been experiencing, with some blaming a lack of social services during the coronavirus pandemic shutdown.

In Hartford, the rate at which other crimes are occurring is down, police said. That includes nonfatal shootings: Hartford, which had 225 surviving gunshot victims in all of 2020, appears to be on track to end the year with fewer victims of nonfatal gunfire.

The Major Crime and Crime Scene divisions are investigating the Fenwick Street shooting. Anyone with information about it is asked to call 860-722-8477

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com.



Connecticut's current COVID-19 surge is expected to last at least a few more weeks. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

#### COVID-19

from Page 1

to have one of the best vaccination rates in the country," Lamont said. "But we still have work to do, and I cannot stress enough that due to waning immunity and the Omicron variant, that there is no better time to get a booster than before the holidays."

#### Cases, positivity rate

Connecticut reported 2,999 new COVID-19 cases Tuesday out of 36,747 tests, for a daily positivity rate of 8.16%. The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 5.4%, up from Monday but down from last

For reasons that remain unclear, Connecticut reported a positivity rate of only 2.21% Monday, its lowest single-day rate since early November and far below what the state has recorded in recent weeks.

Connecticut has now averaged 1,567 daily COVID-19 cases over the past seven days, also up from Monday but down from last week. Unvaccinated residents have been about five times as likely to test positive in recent weeks as vaccinated residents, according to state numbers.

All eight Connecticut counties — as well as the rest of those in the Northeast region are currently recording "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

#### **Hospitalizations**

As of Tuesday, Connecticut has 681 patients hospitalized with

COVID-19, up 36 from Thursday and the most at a time since Feb. 11. Hospitalizations have now more than tripled since the end of October.

According to the state, 76.5% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is even higher when looking specifically at people with severe symptoms.

#### **Deaths**

Connecticut reports COVID-19 deaths on Thursdays. Last week, the state recorded 37 deaths, bringing its total during the pandemic to 8,946. As COVID-19 cases and

hospitalizations have surged in Connecticut over recent weeks, deaths have risen slightly but still remain far below the levels recorded last winter.

The United States has now recorded 799,676 deaths related to COVID-19, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

#### **Vaccinations**

As of Tuesday, 86.2% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 73.6% of all residents and 83.1% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the

Additionally, about 33.6% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

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#### **Statue**

from Page 1

marked an end to the hostilities, but attempted to erase the vanquished tribe by banning the use of its name.

"It ended up being the platform and the architecture of how we treated Native American communities from one end of this country to the other end," said Sen. Cathy Osten, D-Sprague, a commission member.

Walter Woodward, the state historian and a commission member, made the recommendation to leave Mason in place, create an educational program providing context, and consider new statuary for the Capitol.

"You cannot deny that Mason burned the Pequot fort, and that it was a horrific thing to do," Woodward said.

Woodward said the English were invited into the conflict by other tribes trying to resist subjugation by the Pequots. Allies of Mason included the Mashantucket Pequots' modern-day neighbors, the Mohegans.

"This story is much more complex than a good guys, bad guys interpretation," Woodward

But he seconded Osten's assertion "that the Indigenous people of this state have in the 300-plus years that followed often been abused and mistreated by the state and its overseers."

If the Capitol's statuary is going to serve as a history of Connecticut, as intended by the builders, "then we should make sure that history is clear, accurately contextualized and meaningful," Wood-

ward said. William Morgan, the former Capitol police chief and commission member, said a panel whose major function is to preserve the landmark Capitol has been asked

to become an arbiter of history with no clear direction or authority from lawmakers.

Osten agreed with Morgan, but still urged that the commission recommend removing the statue of Mason from the Capitol. Its presence is not necessary to tell the story of Connecticut, she said.

"Statues do not tell history. They glorify the people that we want to glorify," Osten said. "Right now, we glorify John Mason by having him on the Capitol."

The commission conducted an invitational forum last month on Mason.

Historians, an anthropologist, members of the Mohegan, Eastern Pequot and Mashantucket Tribes and one descendant of Mason took turns talking about racism and erasure, the complexities and horrors of the Pequot War, and the opportunities and necessity of finding meaning in history.

Marcus Mason Maronn, a descendant of Mason, furiously defended his ancestor and criticized those who define him by one act and ignore that the massacre came during a war against a fearsome foe.

"They refuse to recognize that this statue on the Capitol represents John Mason for his entire career as a dedicated public servant and as the preeminent founder of the Connecticut Colony, that this symbol is sacred for many people, and is simply not a symbol of genocide that they obsess about," Maronn said.

Sandy Nafis, a former state representative who sits on the commission, said Tuesday that history is complex, and others honored with statuary at the Capitol have histories that are mixed, at best.

"But no one, not one of them, in my opinion, comes close to committing what in my opinion is genocide," Nafis said.

#### **Forum**

from Page 1

Monday night said there's been too much secrecy.

"The lack of knowing is what feeds into the fear and the social media nonsense," parent Josh Davidson told a panel of school administrators and police officials

at the forum. "The tropes of 'We've got this handled' and 'We've followed procedure' are great, but we need more information," Davidson said. "The fact that none of this is being shared and 'trust us' is not sufficient."

Social media was ablaze last week with reports of a student gun threat, and secondhand accounts got worse over a period of two days. At least one student's name was linked in social media posts with making a threat, and some comments suggested the school wasn't safe.

Administrators cite federal student privacy laws as their reason for providing nearly no details about that matter. Police and the schools said an extensive investigation revealed "no credible threat," but won't say more.

When one parent on Monday night said bullying was involved, at least a dozen others — and some students in the room — applauded and nodded, but many others looked puzzled.

Davidson said later that most

parents - including himself - still don't know what really happened.

The situation grew more tense Monday when a 14-year-old student was arrested on a gun possession charge. Police said they have proof the boy had a gun in a vehicle at the school on Dec. 3; they said they haven't recovered the weapon, but ensured that he wasn't returning to the school in the days it took to get an arrest warrant. Police said Monday the boy continues to be held in a state juvenile detention center.

Police Chief Paul Melanson emphasized the incident wasn't connected to the original threat rumors. The arrested boy made no threat to anyone, he said.

Police aren't disclosing more details, citing confidentiality laws to protect juveniles. If the same incident happened involving an adult, Melanson said, the public would get the suspect's name and address along with a detailed summary of what he was accused of doing and how he was caught.

Several parents complained that they should have been told of the Dec. 3 incident right away, not when the arrest was made more than a week later. Melanson said

that could have compromised the investigation. "You have to know that our primary concern is the safety of your kids," he said. "Understand. if we don't do a successful investi-

gation and we cant prove this, then

that student is back to school on Monday morning."

But most parents focused their criticism on how the schools handled the initial incident of a supposed threat, which escalated on social media but involved no

Principal Scott Hurwitz said the school administrators treat all threats seriously, and consult staff psychologists and counselors — and occasionally private psychiatric professionals. But when pressed, educators on the panel wouldn't say whether any students were being disciplined in connected with the alleged threat.

One high school student said better transparency would have prevented a lot of confusion and misinformation. When parents got an email vaguely referencing the situation last week, students didn't get a copy.

"It led to either parents not telling their students about what was going on or them asking 'Do you know what's going on?' which led to kids going to social media and asking 'What the hell is going on?" the student said, drawing applause from the crowd.

"Parents don't know, kids don't know — having to piece things together from social media ... is heartbreaking," he said. "Having to go to school and see half the kids aren't there because they're afraid of going to school and getting shot, that's (expletive) scary."

# 'Ted Lasso is my guy'

Lamont promotes optimism to business audience by invoking fictional TV soccer coach

By Christopher Keating

Hartford Courant

ROCKY HILL - After hearing years of complaints about Connecticut and its sluggish economy, Gov. Ned Lamont is taking lessons in optimism from a fictional English soccer coach who has gained recent attention in a popular streaming television

"Ted Lasso is my guy," Lamont declared Tuesday to a crowd of 275 business and civic leaders at a Rocky Hill hotel.

Lamont sounded his theme at the traditional pre-Christmas breakfast of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, where

governors have been speaking for more than 25 years with a variety of poems and good wishes.

În his remarks, Lamont did not immediately remember Lasso's name as he looked for assistance from his fellow members on the dais, including the new UConn football coach, Jim Mora.

'Who's that soccer coach?" Lamont asked. "The British coach that is on TV. What's his name? Ted Lasso? Ted Lasso is my guy. ... Usually they say Jack Kennedy or Ronald Reagan. I like Ted Lasso."

The crowd started applauding at the idea of the Emmy Award-winning comedy series that started in 2020 and features actor Jason

"Ted Lasso ... was supposed to fail, and with his infectious optimism, his goofy optimism takes a bunch of these young players, who were a little bit dysfunctional, and he makes them believe," Lamont told the crowd. "In the locker room, he's got the word believe. Coach [Mora], that's what you're going to do with the football team. and I'm trying to do that with the state of Connecticut."

Lamont, a Democrat who is in his third year as governor, said he was tired of hearing the negative complaints about his home state.

"We were a little down on ourselves a few years ago - a little grumpy," Lamont said. "'Oh, we're at the bottom of this list and the bottom of that list. And we're in a chronic state of fiscal crisis. GE left. Last one out turn out the

Lamont added, "I say hogwash. I think it's the most amazing state in the country. I love Connecticut. I think we have the best schools in the world. ... I do think you gotta believe. Viruses are infectious, but so is optimism."

Directly addressing the business leaders, Lamont said, "I need you guys all to be positive as well. You



Gov. Ned Lamont promoted optimism at the traditional pre-Christmas breakfast of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce by invoking Ted Lasso, a fictional English soccer coach who has gained recent attention in a popular streaming television series. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

know how we get this state really moving forward again? With each and every one of you as a champion for the state, just like I'm a champion every day. We've got a long way to go, but we're making progress."

After his speech, Lamont told reporters outside the hotel that he was not thinking about his reelection campaign in 2022.

"I've tried to put that off as long as I can," Lamont said. "I was talking to business leaders who believe in this state. ... I'm going to leave the politics as far behind me as I can."

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com

## Vaccine mandate for medical staff doesn't apply to prisons

By Kasturi Pananjady and Kelan Lyons

More than 600 employees at the Department of Correction may opt to test weekly in lieu of being vaccinated against COVID-19, a CT Mirror analysis has found, because the state is not requiring prison medical staff to apply for medical or religious exemptions.

That policy is inconsistent with rules for the majority of health care workers at the departments of Veteran's Affairs, Children and Families, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Developmental Services. About 3,700 workers at those agencies must have exemptions approved by the state if they want to test weekly instead of getting vaccinated, as per Gov. Ned Lamont's executive order. The governor's office confirmed that correctional employees are not bound by this rule.

The administration's restrictive mandate for most health care employees is similar to practices in private hospitals in Connecticut, which also require workers to apply for exemptions if they do not want to be vaccinated. The governor's vaccine mandate for long-term care facilities also requires staff to submit requests for medical and religious exemptions.

"That policy should be employed for corrections," said Arthur Caplan, professor of bioethics at New York University's Grossman School of Medicine. That would signal that "we mean business here, we've taken seriously the dangers that prisons and enclosed housing cause to the prisoners, the guards and the communities where they're

Workers at state-run hospitals and long-term care facilities were required to get vaccinated or submit exemption requests — before the governor's vaccine mandate was expanded to other state employees, said Lora Rae Anderson, the director of communications for the state's chief operating officer.

Those in hospitals and in longterm care facilities remained the most at risk throughout the pandemic, which is why the Governor, in partnership with hospitals across the state, acted swiftly to



A nurse prepares a Moderna dose against COVID-19 in a vaccination center set up in the gym of a police barracks Friday in Rome. Italian government officials made COVID-19 vaccination mandatory to police starting today. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/AP

implement vaccination and testing requirements for those workers," Anderson said in an emailed response to questions.

But Anderson estimated that 1,850 health care workers in the executive branch weren't included in either of those groups, around a third or a fourth of whom work at the Department of Correction. When the governor issued his vaccination mandate for state employees more broadly, he allowed them to test weekly at-will if they did not want a shot. The state is covering the cost of weekly testing for unvaccinated employees for the duration of the public health emergency, which presently extends though mid-February.

"We did not want to walk back those previous orders, so that's why some folks are required to submit exemption requests, and others are not," Anderson wrote. "Requirements for all state employees were made hand-in-hand with state employee unions, medical professionals and agency leadership with safety as the highest priority."

The state's relationship with many advocates for the incarcerated has been strained during the pandemic. Claudine Fox, public policy and advocacy director for the ACLU of Connecticut, which twice sued the state for its handling of COVID-19 in prisons and jails, said the "lax approach to vaccines for DOC health care workers only underscores the DOC's cavalier attitude toward people's health inside."

Fox faulted what she called a

"double standard" of having strict rules for medical workers in some health care settings but not others.

"Prisons are congregate living settings. If we're treating certain congregate living settings one way, they need to all be treated the same way. People in prisons are people, and they deserve to be protected, too," she said. "This notion that providing health care in Connecticut's prisons and jails is somehow different from other health care settings, again, just demonstrates how people see prisons, and people in prisons, as completely different from the rest of society."

More than 280 prisoners had tested positive for the virus as of Dec. 7. If the numbers continue to increase, advocates worry the prison system will rely on isolation to contain an outbreak, as officials did with the state's youth prison, which was placed on partial lockdown on Nov. 19.

Just over 5,000 incarcerated people have been vaccinated against the virus, a number equivalent to about 52% of the number of people in prisons and jails as of

The governor's office makes public department-level data for executive branch agencies with more than 100 employees, and the Department of Correction has the lowest vaccination rate among them at 65%, according to data published Nov. 22. It also has the highest rates of testing and noncompliance, the Mirror previously reported.

#### **HARTFORD**

## City names firm to handle waste and recycling as MIRA plant nears closure

**By Seamus McAvoy** Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The city of Hartford selected a private waste management firm to take over the city's disposal and recycling as the massive waste-to-energy incineration facility in the South Meadows nears its closure, the city announced Tuesday.

Officials anticipate a five-year contract with Murphy Road Recycling, LLC, headquartered in Enfield with a transfer facility also in the South Meadows, to replace the city's current partnership with the aging facility operated by the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority.

"We're not going to have to change our operations much, and we'll be taking our trash to an entity that we have strong confidence in, and we'll be saving money at the same time," Michael Looney, director of public works for the city of Hartford, said Tues-

The city of Hartford and Murphy Road Recycling will soon begin negotiations to finalize the agreement, which then must be approved by the city council. Looney said he expects the agreement will be finalized and implemented within the next six months.

Under the agreement, Hartford's fleet of garbage trucks will deliver municipal solid waste to Murphy Road Recycling's Hartford facility — located on Murphy Road — which will act as a transfer station. Murphy Road Recycling's drivers will then transport the waste to its own network of disposal facilities outside the city.

Recycling will remain free, officials said, and will be handled at Murphy Road Recycling's facility in Berlin. Murphy Road is investing \$30 million to upgrade the facility's capacity, and MIRA agreed in March to have its recyclables processed at the Berlin

Looney calculates the deal will save the city between \$300,000 and \$500,000 each year, partly because of lower tip fees. The city currently sends approximately 32,000 tons of residential waste to the MIRA facility, which charges a \$105 tip fee, for a total of about \$3.3 million.

Looney said the city of Hart-ford has long been familiar with Murphy Road Recycling and was encouraged by the MIRA agreement. Looney also spoke with officials from East Hartford, which has contracted with the company to handle its waste and recycling, who shared positive reviews.

"Murphy Road will be a great partner for the City, and they are committed to transparency, communication, and delivering quality services to the residents of Hartford," James Sanchez, Hartford city councilman and co-chair of the Quality of Life and Public Safety Committee, said in a statement Tuesday.

The shift away from MIRA's incineration facility, which will end operations by July 1, 2022, will also mean "cleaner air and less emissions in our South Meadows neighborhood," Sanchez wrote.

Environmental groups overwhelmingly favor other types of waste management over incineration, which they see as an impediment to "Zero Waste," a waste-minimizing philosophy.

"Obviously that has been an environmental concern for a number of years, for both the city government and for our neighborhoods, our residents," Looney said. "Having that operation cease is certainly good for the air that our residents are breathing in."

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com

"Murphy Road will be a great partner for the City, and they are committed to transparency, communication, and delivering quality services to the residents of Hartford."

— James Sanchez, Hartford city councilman and co-chair of the Quality of Life and Public Safety Committee

## The Place 2 Be opening location at Basketball Hall of Fame

**By Susan Dunne** Hartford Courant

The Place 2 Be, the Hartford-based chain known for its all-day brunch and cocktails and its Instagram-friendly decor, is opening a location at Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, in early 2022.

It will be the fourth location, the first in Massachusetts, and at 6,000 square feet, the largest location of The Place 2 Be. The chain started at 615 Franklin Ave. in Hartford in 2016, expanded to Hartford's Constitution Plaza in 2020, and opened a location in West Hartford in June 2021.

Other restaurants at the Hall of Fame, which is at 1000 Hall of Fame Ave., are locations of the Hartford-based Max Restaurant Group and Locals 8 Restaurant

Gina Luari, CEO and founder of The Place 2 Be, said she had wanted to open in Springfield for a while, after running customer

data from online ordering.

"We found a huge chunk of customers coming from the 413 area code, especially on the weekend," Luari said. "Obviously, that added to our enormous wait time. I said, we have to open in Springfield. There is an opportunity there and will alleviate the wait here."

A friend in Springfield's Business Improvement District put Luari in contact with the Hall of

The Springfield location has a function room, with a capacity of about 80 sitting and 100 standing, she said. "None of our other locations has that. We don't have the capacity for it. This is major for us," she said. "I feel bad having to turn people down for functions over and over again. Most of the requests are for weekends, and weekends are crazy. Now we don't have to turn them down.'

The location also will have an outdoor patio and four bars.

The location also will tap into the Hall of Fame theme by presenting its own tongue-incheek Hall of Fame. "We'll have the first person to finish our Big Ass Mimosa, the first ever rubber duck to go into a drink," she said. "It'll be fun, to emphasize our theme and our connection to the

The restaurant, which will be open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., is accessible even to those who don't buy a ticket to the Hall of Fame.

John L. Doleva, president and CEO of the Hall of Fame, said in a statement, "This unique restaurant concept has the perfect vibe that will add to the energy and enjoyment of our overall downtown entertainment complex." place2bect.com. hoophall.com.

The Place 2 Be also plans a location at 338 Elm St. in New Haven. Luari said that site is "a little delayed on materials and getting permits for the second-floor patio." She said it should open in three months.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.



The Place 2 Be, the Hartford-based chain known for its all-day brunch and cocktails and its Instagram-friendly decor, is opening a location at Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, in early 2022. COURTESY THE PLACE 2 BE

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE TO OPEDITORS

ESTATE OF John J. Katzenbach, Late of Centerbrook, AKA John Katzenbach (21-0749)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is: Mary Patricia Murray, 12 Shore Grove Rd. Clinton, CT 06413

12/15/21 7102236

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Elizabeth Margherita Taylor AKA Elizabeth M. Taylor, AKA Margo Taylor (21-0730)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated December 10, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:

C/O GREGORY ALAN SAUM, THE LAW OFFICE OF GREGORY A. SAUM LLC, 1281 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 204, STAMFORD, CT 06902

## LEGAL NOTICE OLD SAYBROOK INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION NOTICE OF DECISION

The Duly Authorized Agent of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, Lynette Wacker, granted administrative approval on for the following regulated activity:

Application for construction of a 240 s.f. shed at 226 Essex Rd.., Map 58/Lot 55-1, Residence AA-1 District, Owner/Applicant: Susan Hull Weglein.

Copies of the permit is on file in the Land Use Department, Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street, between the weekday hours of 8:30 a.m. and

Dated at Old Saybrook, Connecticut this 14th day of December, 2021.

OLD SAYBROOK
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES
COMMISSION
J. Colin Heffernan, Chairman

12/15/21 7103936

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2021 in the 1st floor conference room of the Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street and via teleconference to consider the following:

A. "100 Main Street Mixed Use Apartments" Application for Special Exception Permit to convert 3,200 s.f. of 2nd story retail/office space to two apartments (1,100 s.f., & 800 s.f.) with 2 storage areas (500 s.f.) Assessor's Map 37/Lot 101, Business B-1 District, Pedestrian Node.
Applicant: Lonesome Grove Partners,

LLC Agent: Attorney Peter Charbonnier

B. "Riverside Reflections" Application for Special Exception Permit/Coastal Site Plan Review to construct a columbarium and a 600 s.f. meeting/archives building and septic system.

99 Sheffield Street. Assessor's Man 49.

building and septic system.

59 Sheffield Street, Assessor's Map 49

Lot 1, Residence A District, CAM Zone.

Applicant: Riverside Cemetery

Agent: Attorney Edward M. Cassella
Public Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/9

2356062093?pwd=WEZŚÝVdRcm1Dcm s4d2wxMGFTVitiZ09 Meeting ID: 923 5606 2093 Meeting Passcode: 302302 Teleconference Dial-In: (929) 436-2866

At this hearing interested parties may appear and be heard and written communications may be submitted in advance via email to chris.costa@ oldsaybrooket.gov or regular mail. Copies of applications and plans are on file in the Land Use Department, Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street and at www.

OLD SAYBROOK ZONING COMMISSION Robert C. Friedmann, Chairman

## NOTICE OF DECISIONS MIDDLETOWN PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2021

 Approved a special exception with site plan for the construction of two residential buildings totaling 8 onebedroom units for the elderly/disabled at Marino Manor located at 1361 Randolph Road in the R-15 zone. Applicant/agent William A. Vasiliou, Housing Authority SE2021-10

 Approved a special exception for a new liquor retail store establishment to occupy a vacant tenant space in an existing building located at 613 Washington Street in the B-2 Zone. Applicant/agent Mitalben Patel SE2021-11

3. Approved a release of the Public Works bond reducing the amount from \$60,000 to \$0 for the Sunwood Development on Ridgewood Road and Mile Lane. Applicant/agent Robert Wiedenmann, Sunwood Development S2018-1

Thomas Pattavina, Chair Planning and Zoning Commission 12/15/21 7103777

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

50 Olesen Rd Wethersfield CT 06109 860-266-3184

the personal property. 12/4/2021 7099608

Auction Date Dec 29, 2021 1:00 PM 8198 Biggees Merchandise House goods 3036 Biggees Merchandise House

goods
3009 Erica Sellars-Moore House goods
3509 Tina Marie Corcoran House goods
8021 Luz Gonzalez House goods
3424 Dorothy Brancifort House goods
5166 Heather Jean Doura House goods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com.
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction.
Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Commission of the Town of Old Saybrook will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2021 in the 1st floor conference room of the Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street and via teleconference to consider the following:

A. "633 Middlesex Turnpike, LLC" Petition to amend the Old Saybrook Zoning Regulations Sections 32.0 and 32.7.2 to allow one building with a max. gross floor area of 35,000 s.f. in the B-2 zone when located on a five acre parcel. Applicant: 633 Middlesex Turnpike, LLC Agent: Attorney Edward M. Cassella

B. "CGCT Old Saybrook, LLC" Petition to Amend the Old Saybrook Zoning Regulations Section 34.2.2 Gateway Business B-4 District and Section 53.1 Special Standards for Drive-through windows for indoor restaurants to allow drive-through restaurants in the Gateway Business B-4 District.
Property Owner: CGCT Old Saybrook, LLC. Agent: Attorney Edward M. Cassella

Public Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/9 2356062093?pwd=WEZSYVdRcm1Dcm s4d2wxMGFTVitiZz09 Meeting ID: 923 5606 2093 Meeting Passcode: 302302 Teleconference Dial-In: (929) 436-2866

tel://9294362866,,92356062093#

At this hearing interested parties may appear and be heard and written communications may be submitted in advance via email to chris.costa@ oldsaybrookct.gov or regular mail. Copies of applications and plans are on file in the Land Use Department, Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street and at www. oldsaybrookct.gov/zoning-commission

OLD SAYBROOK ZONING COMMISSION Robert C. Friedmann, Chairman 12/08, 12/15/21 7089889

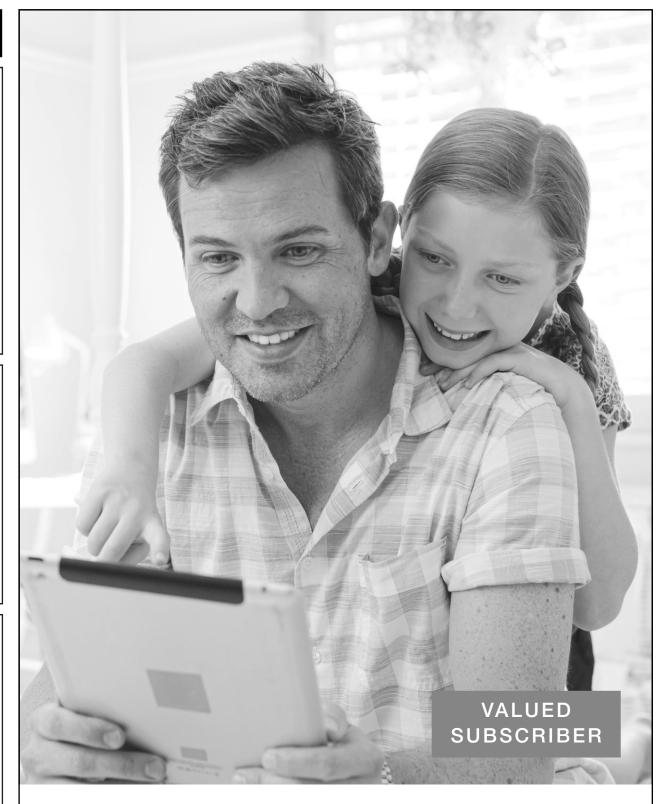
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THE BALTIMORE SUN

SUN The Virginian Pilot
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JO ZIXUAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

# SKIPPING TRADITIONS

#### People across the country are saying no more to holiday obligations

**By Alvson Krueger** The New York Times

n the past, Lexi Ivarsson, a content creator who lives in Boise, Idaho, felt she had limited options for the holidays

She would pack her four kids, ages 3 to 7, in the car and drive to either her husband's parents' house nearby or her family's house near Provo, Utah. It was a tradition so ingrained, she even saw family members last year for the holidays, in the middle of the pandemic and counter to the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

But this year she decided she had

had enough.

She and her husband, Brendan, don't share views with his family on almost anything. "Our thoughts on religion and politics and the way we should treat each other and ethics is completely different," said Ivarsson, 28. "Sitting down at a table together is hard because of that."

To get to her parents required a 10-hour drive. "We get along with them," she said, "but it's a big drive to do with little kids."

So this year she decided to celebrate Thanksgiving sans family. Instead she and her husband invited her best friend and her family over to celebrate (and share the cooking).

We had such a good time, and there was zero drama to it and zero obligation," Ivarsson said. "I think the pandemic shifted something that made us realize if we don't want to spend time with family, we don't have

She now plans to celebrate Christ-

mas with friends as well.

People across the country are saying no more to holiday obligations. After the drain of the pandemic, some are choosing to skip the stress of travel or of spending hours around a table with people they don't entirely enjoy. Even those who like their families are choosing to be apart, opting instead to be with friends who live close to them or to go on far-flung trips they've always wanted to take.

We've all finally realized we don't have to do things the way they've always been," Ivarsson said.

Throughout the pandemic, many Americans have realized the value in taking care of themselves and doing what they want to do, not what's expected of them.

Megan Vice's family lives on Long Island, New York, and wants her to come home for the holidays, but for the past few years, spending Christmas there has been a bummer. "My parents don't even have a tree anymore," said Vice, a 31-year-old musician who lives in Los Angeles. "I need to be doing things that make me happy, and for me, Christmas is not an enjoyable experience. As much as I love my parents, this holiday does not

make me feel good." This year, she will fly to Chiapas, Mexico, for a 10-day silent meditation retreat in the mountains. "It's going to be intense, but I think it will be meaningful," Vice said. "The pandemic has made me crave not just new experiences, but ones that are intentional."

The pandemic has taught other Americans that virtual connections can be as meaningful as in-person ones. If that is the case, they figure,

why spend all the money and time to travel to be with family in person?

Tracy Lee, 40, who works in financial tech in Manhattan, loves visiting her parents and siblings who live in Montana, Arizona and Indiana. But Thanksgiving, when airfare is generally more expensive and the airports are packed, is not an ideal time to fly there. "I would rather see my family when we can actually do things and not feel forced," said Lee. "Why not meet up in August and enjoy a nice week together and not force this holiday on all of us?"

When she was away from her family over the pandemic, she learned how easy it was to keep in touch with them virtually. So she decided to do that for the holiday this year instead. "We played a trivia game with them, some version of Heads Up," she said. "It feels so natural to interact virtually since the pandemic. This is now how we make the holidays work."

Thom Tran, a stand-up comedian in Los Angeles, said the pandemic normalized virtual connections so much that this year he felt free to celebrate Thanksgiving away from his parents, who live in New York, "completely without guilt."

"My dad is a 70-something man who now embraces the iPhone like I never expected," said Tran, 42. "He now FaceTimes me on a biweekly basis," he said. (Tran spent Thanksgiving serving meals to the homeless, then eating dinner with 25 new and old friends.)

For others, skipping family gatherings last year helped them realize the get-togethers are not that important. Tony Hurt, 31, a software engineer in Columbus, Ohio, usually spends

Christmas with his large extended family at his aunt's house, also in Columbus. "I buy gifts for everyone, and I usually spend \$600 to \$1,000," he said. "And it's not even about the money. It's so stressful buying gifts for so many people."

The pandemic helped him have a breakthrough. "Since we weren't able to get together last year. I realized how much money I saved," he said. "It made me realize it's not the worst thing in the world to skip spending a day with family I see a lot anyway." Instead he's going to Puerto Rico by himself for a week to relax on the beach and listen to live music.

"I would have never dreamed of missing Christmas before the pandemic, but now it makes sense," he said. "I am so excited about my trip."

The pandemic also turned friends into family. When they couldn't be with their biological relatives, some created a family of friends and neighbors who lived closer.

Caragh Creswell, who works in fashion in New York City, chose to celebrate Thanksgiving with one of her best friend's families. For Christmas, she is hosting friends at her apartment.

"We have all gone through such a huge, huge emotional roller coaster together," said Creswell, 29, who is originally from Australia and still has family there.

"What the pandemic has taught me is that family doesn't have to represent those that are blood related," she said. "Family is made of those people who support you and love you. So when I think about who I want to spend the holidays with, it's those people."

#### **EX-ETIQUETTE**

## Stop comparing yourself with mother of partner's children

By Jann Blackstone Tribune News Service

Q. The holidays are coming up and it's tradition that we all congregate at my partner's parents' home. They always invite his ex-wife. She never stays long, just long enough to say hi to his parents and their kids, but when she walks in, it's like the prodigal daughter returned. It's so

obvious they prefer her, it makes me feel invisible. I've spoken to my partner and he says it's all in my head. I think it's because we aren't married. What's good ex-etiquette?

A. Biggest red flag of the day: getting married because you think it will please someone else. That's a decision made between the two of you and should be because you feel secure

in your relationship, not because you feel insecure.

That said, comparing – which is what you are doing — is the problem, and it's detrimental to just about any relationship. Comparing is a closed conversation with yourself. You have an idea you hold about yourself and then you compare that idea to another idea you hold about someone or something else.

You refer to her as "your partner's ex-wife." Try referring to her as "the children's mother." That simple change can make a huge difference in your attitude.

It sounds as if she's not taking advantage. Although it may make you uncomfortable, it may be a tradition established before you started dating your partner to make the transition easier on the kids. Your mission, should you

choose to accept it, is to cultivate your own relationship with them based on your own special gifts not compared to hers. You can't change that. You can change anything you want to about yourself and your

relationships. Although the adult personal relationships can be complicated, "Put the children first" is and always will be the essence of good ex-etiquette.



Comparing yourself to a partner's ex is detrimental to iust about any relationship. **DREAMSTIME** 

#### Gift will establish Scorsese institute

Erom novva comrisco

Martin Scorsese's alma mater, New York University, is establishing a film institute in his name after a gift from George Lucas and Mellody Hobson.

The formation of the Martin Scorsese Institute of Global Cinematic Arts was to be announced Tuesday by NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. The institute will include a virtual production center, the Martin Scorsese Department of Cinema Studies and support for student scholarships — with tuition assistance for those selected as "Scorsese scholars."

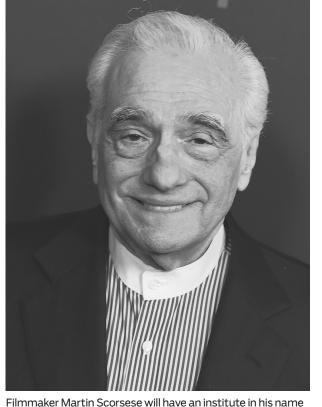
A large donation from the Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation — the nonprofit run by the "Star Wars" filmmaker and his wife, Hobson, co-chief executive of Ariel Investments and chairwoman of Starbucks Corporation — made the new institute possible.

'This is such a singular and remarkable honor for me, and I thank my old, dear friend George Lucas, his wife, Mellody Hobson, and their remarkable foundation for this honor." Scorsese said in a statement. "Their generosity of spirit and deed is deeply moving for me, and doubly so since this state-of-theart institute will be housed at my beloved alma mater. NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

In a joint statement, Hobson and Lucas said the Scorsese institute "deservedly highlights his legacy as a quintessential American filmmaker and will inspire generations of diverse, talented students."

Kardashian West passes 'baby bar': Kim Kardashian West has passed California's "baby bar" exam.

"For anyone who doesn't know my law school journey, know this wasn't easy



at New York University. **JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION 2020** 

or handed to me," she wrote Monday on Instagram. "I failed this exam 3 times in 2 years, but I got back up each time and studied harder and tried again until I did it!!! (I did have COVID on the 3rd try w a 104 fever but I'm not making excuses.)"

The reality TV star and entrepreneur is studying law without attending law school. That means that she, like others who study in programs and schools that aren't accredited by the State Bar of California, has to take two exams to earn her credentials — the so-called baby bar, plus the bar exam that all aspirants must pass to become attornover.

'Zola,' A24 lead Spirit Award nods: The Film Independent Spirit Awards, Hollywood's leading indie film honors, stayed true to its name this year, bestowing a leading seven nominations to Janicza Bravo's wild road trip saga "Zola," including best feature, best director and best female lead for Taylour Paige. "The Novice," a sports drama and psychological thriller, followed with five.

"Zola" was nominated for best feature alongside "The Novice," "A Chiara," "C'mon C'mon," and Maggie Gyllenhaal's Elena Ferrante adaptation, "The Lost Daughter," which picked up four nods.

Nominations were announced Tuesday. The 37th Film Independent Spirit Awards will be held March 6.

Dec. 15 birthdays: Singer Cindy Birdsong is 82. Drummer Dave Clark is 82. Actor Don Johnson is 72. Director Julie Taymor is 69. Actor Helen Slater is 58. Actor Garrett Wang is 53. Actor Adam Brody is 42. Actor Michelle Dockery is 40. Actor George O. Gore II is 39. Guitarist Alana Haim is 30. Actor Maude Apatow is 24.



## **ASK AMY**

**By Amy Dickinson** 

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

#### Mother-in-law triggers traumatic experience

**Dear Amy:** I'm a new mom to a wonderful, healthy and happy baby.

The birth was traumatic. My postpartum period was marred with unbearable pain, physical limitations and multiple surgeries.

It was a difficult time of my life that I'm trying to move past in order to enjoy the happy times of new parenthood ahead.

I'm having a lot of trouble with some of my mother-in-law's comments. During the worst of this painful post-partum time, my active, able-bodied MIL came to visit the baby. I asked her if she'd throw in a load of laundry while she was at the house, since I couldn't get downstairs easily.

She said no, and her explanation was, "That's not what I had in mind."

She was only willing to hold the baby. Her unwillingness to help with everyday practicalities absolutely gutted me.

The problem is that now, whenever she comes over and complains about having to do her own housework, it brings back these awful memories of feeling completely abandoned by her during my greatest time of need.

It is literally like a terrifying flashback to those hard days when my pain was so excruciating. I was struggling every day simply not to give up!

How do I get her to stop talking about these things that seem to be so triggering for me?

— Gutted in Illinois

Dear Gutted: My first recommendation is that you pay very close attention to your own health. Your traumatic experience giving birth (and it sounds truly and extremely painful), could have triggered postpartum depression or PTSD.

I am not being deliberately alarmist, but your flashbacks are "terrifying," and if these feelings don't ease considerably with time, you really must seek mental health treatment.

Regarding your motherin-law, a frank and respectful talk is in order.

You can initiate a conversation by saying, "This is a hard topic for me to bring up. I hope you will understand that I need to be honest with you. I am still struggling to recover from an incredibly challenging birth. You've made it clear that you aren't willing to help out around our house, and I accept that. But every time you complain about your own burdens, I'm reminded of my own. I really wish you wouldn't do it."

Dear Amy: I've been following questions in your column from parents whose adult kids keep "bouncing back."

I have three sons, ages 19 to 23. I am aching for an empty nest! My sons are all still at home.

They are all working, going to college, etc., but I don't see an end in sight.

I am so tired of picking up after them/reminding them of chores, etc. Hubby and I just long for

our freedom. GAWD! — Don't See an End

**Dear Don't:** I am a parent to five, and I have absolutely "been there."

Here is hard-earned wisdom for you: If you don't see an end in sight, your sons certainly won't. Those who are working should be paying (some) rent. (Some parents who charge rent choose to save it and then give the amount to the child when they move out.)

Paying for housing gives them experience and exposure to — valuing the roof over their heads.

You and your husband should lay down reasonable expectations for all of your sons, and even if this is an extreme change for them — you parents should stick to your guns.

Do not pick up after them. Hound them. It's more work for you — but you want them to hear your voice in their heads while they develop some life skills.

Choose a move-out date, stick to it, and cheerfully help them to look for housing. Until then, you and your husband should hold weekly family meetings, where you review how things are going and receive updates from them.

**Dear Amy:** "Big Tipper in NJ" asked if a restaurant tip should be based on the total before-tax, or after.

Thank you for encouraging generosity.

My response would have been simpler: If you can't afford to tip a server based on the entire bill (usually a difference amounting to loose change) then you should not dine out and let others serve you.

— Big Tipper

**Dear Tipper:** Great answer (and thank you for the tip)!

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#### TV REVIEW

## 'Peanuts' special is solid holiday entertainment, but lacks depth

By Robert Lloyd Los Angeles Times

A mere 56 years separate "A Charlie Brown Christmas," a television classic, from Apple TV+'s new "Snoopy Presents: For Auld Lang Syne," a television special. (Snoopy is the brand leader now.) The first Peanuts special in a decade (following Fox's "Happiness Is a Warm Blanket, Charlie Brown") — Apple has mounted two series in the meantime, "Snoopy in Space" and "The Snoopy Show," featuring Charles Schulz's characters — it is a solid holiday entertainment that diligently hits a host of Schulz-ean notes and works in all the major characters. If it doesn't achieve real depth or transcendence, it may be because reassurance is its end. Which may be just

what you crave, after all. Like "Peanuts," the comic strip from which it imported many of its gags, "A Charlie Brown Christmas" applies a bright, lively aesthetic to somber themes: commercialism, holiday depression and spiritual seriousness. It set a high bar, probably never equaled, even through the years Schulz was alive and providing the teleplays himself — an astonishing 39 specials were produced under his watch before his death in 2000. I say "probably" because I have, of course, not seen them all.

In the new special, the existential crisis is transferred to Lucy Van Pelt, the strip's resident antagonist, who interprets her grandmother's failure to come for Christmas as a sign she is not lovable; in a panic, she's determined to throw a big New Year's Eve party to prove otherwise. She pushes her brother Linus into assisting and enlists Charlie Brown to handle



A scene from the new Peanuts holiday special, "Snoopy Presents: For Auld Lang Syne." **APPLE TV+** 

decorations, an echo of his directing the Christmas play in the first special — just as the song "Auld Lang Syne" will fill in thematically for philosopher-child to Linus' earlier nativity speech.

I can't say whether some of the jokes might not have been imported from the strip (research shows that at least one has, reassigned to a different character), but the gags generally follow its four-panel rhythms. And like "Peanuts," the new special happily lives in the 20th century. Lucy speaks to her grandmother on a landline, and when Charlie Brown attempts to watch "Citizen Kane" to fulfill a resolution to "view a great work of art" before the clock turns on the new year, it is in a bean bag chair in front of an old-fashioned cathode-ray

tube television. Although it lacks the handmade charm of the Lee Mendelson-produced, Bill Melendez-directed specials of old, the animation, by Canada's Wild-Brain Studios, deftly captures Schulz's line, rounding out characters with subtle lighting effects, so that they handily inhabit a world appropriately more 2D than three. Slapstick sequences, which Schulz had a gift for suggesting on the page, are smoothly executed.

Snoopy, the title notwithstanding, also takes a bit of a back seat here, swamped by his reuniting brothers and sisters. Woodstock is, as always, the animators' friend, and Sally, attempting to stay awake to midnight, is, as always, the funniest human.

The new special, which cribs an ending from "It's a Wonderful Life," is almost distressingly sentimental, but given the premise, the times and the context, I don't suppose there is a way around it.

Lucy does take shots at Charlie Brown here, for whom things will inevitably go wrong. The familiar cries of "Good grief!" "Rats!" and "Auugh!" ring out. But where Charlie Brown's loneliness is intrinsic to his character, here there is only one possible answer to a child asking, as Lucy does, "Am I not lovable?" Have we worried until now whether she is?

Yet who am I to say that Lucy Van Pelt can't feel pain or make an apology or do something sweet? There are Schulzes among the executive producers, and it is literally their business.

Where to watch: Apple TV+

#### **HOROSCOPES**

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Let the dawn light invigorate you this morning! Take the first few minutes of your day to write down a list of things to accomplish, preferably including something you've been putting off for longer than necessary.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): A deep need to break out of any confining boundaries could overtake you today. A bit of rebellion and surprise might do wonders for your inner satisfaction. As wonderful as communities can be, sometimes you need to stand on your own in order to find your own peace of mind.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): It might feel as though there are chaotic voices in your head. Instead of trying to make sense of it all, lean into the vibes. As you sit with the emotions and ideas that may bubble up from unseen territory, allow any mystical messages to really sink in. You could uncover something truly magical!

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Having fun is good for your heart! This isn't about going to a club or barhopping with friends, but rather the kind of lighthearted fun that children have when they go sledding or roll down a grassy hill. Let loose today, preferably with some friends, and goof off like kids again.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Listen to what people say. It's wise to take the pulse of the situation. Consider

of the situation. Consider your reputation amongst your peers and ask yourself if you're happy with the way people view you. If you aren't satisfied, you can fix it, like making effort to ensure that people know what you're about.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Step out of your comfort zone! Look beyond your usual experiences. Is there some room for bending your internal rules? If you follow the same patterns, change is unlikely. Take your cues from diverse cultures — trying something unfamiliar could have amazing results.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):
There's a spark of inspiration traveling throughout the skies today. Consider taking time away from everyone to do some soul-searching. Are there some behaviors you could stand to let go of? Think about the phoenix rising from the ashes, then try to show others just how much you can change!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A surprise might come your way today! It may arrive from a peer with whom you stand on equal footing. This person could be a friend or even a lover, but they might really go against your expectations. Still, it's best to be prepared for any situation. Expect the unexpected.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There may be some professional mountains in your path today. Consider going for a jog this morning or clearing a space in your home to do some gentle exercise — perhaps while burning a scented candle or calming incense. It will help you take charge of the rest of the day.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Beauty pirouettes through the air today. Leave your work or other obligations. In the meantime, its OK to take a few extra minutes getting dressed this morning. Then, go do something expressive to let this mornings spark become something tangible.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your home might feel a bit too small today. You can scratch that itch without calling in the movers. Consider simply spending some time browsing interior design pages and furniture websites, perhaps even looking at a few new paint colors. You don't have to change zip codes to get a fresh feel.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): There are likely many technological distractions in your daily life. Try to find time to journal today, writing down whatever comes into your mind. Don't expect too much in terms of output — just give yourself permission to free-write and see what comes out.

#### TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Dec. 15, 1791, the Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

In 1939, the Civil War

motion picture epic "Gone with the Wind," starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable, had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1971, the Secret Service appointed its first five female special agents.

In 1974, the horror spoof "Young Frankenstein," starring Gene Wilder and directed by Mel Brooks, was released by 20th Century Fox.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter announced he would grant diplomatic recognition to Communist China on New Year's Day and sever official relations with Taiwan.

In 2001, with a crash, the last standing piece of the World Trade Center's facade was brought down in New York.

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#### **BONUS PUZZLE PAGE**

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at **PlayJumble.com** 

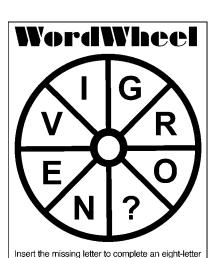


#### **SUDOKU**

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#### **BOGGLE**





word reading clockwise or counterclockwise

FORGIVEN

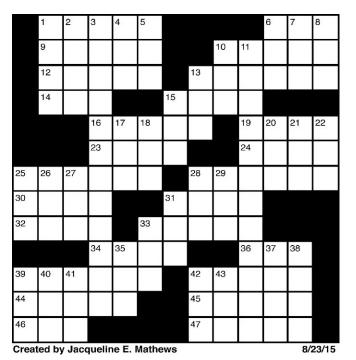
#### **WORD SEARCH**

Wordsearch: hold tight

	Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.																		
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#### **TV CROSSWORD**

#### by Jacqueline E. Mathews



- 1 "The Tonight Show Starring \_ Fallon"
- 6 "\_\_: Miami" 9 Think the world of 10 "Siskel & \_\_"
- 12 Usually-dry streambeds
- 13 Hug 14 180° from NNW
- 15 Aaron Spelling's daughter 16 Actress \_\_-Symoné 19 "Good Times" actor John \_\_ 23 Tack
- 24 Dog in "Peter Pan" 25 Robert De Niro film about a baseball player
- 28 John Dye's role on "Touched by an Angel" 30 Actress Miles
- 31 Jai \_\_; fast-paced game 32 Stitched joining 33 Betty or Jaleel
- 34 Creative thought
- 36 "\_\_ and a Half Men" 39 Grins 42 Actress Debi

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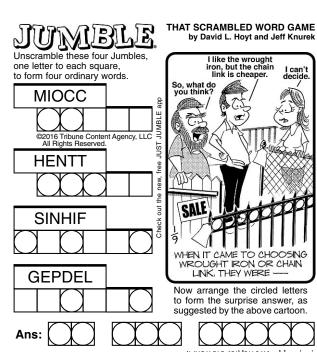
- Ryan of "The Beverly 45 Hillbillies"
- 46 Merkel or O'Connor 47 Camp shelters
- DOWN
- 1 Blockbuster film about a great white shark
- 2 Lupino and her namesakes3 Series for Ty Burrell4 Diagnostic scan, for short
- "Say \_\_ to the Dress"
- Average grade Yrbk. section
- Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

  10 Word with muffs or plugs
- 11 Actor on "NCIS"
  13 "\_\_ Air"; movie for Nicolas Cage and John Cusack
- 15 \_\_ Aviv, Israel 17 Battery size 18 Actor Diesel

- 20 Spoil 21 "\_\_ Tree Hill" 22 Cary Elwes/Danny Glover horror
- movie
  25 "\_\_ Bloopers & Practical Jokes"
  26 "\_\_ Haw"
  27 Historical period
- 28 MacGraw or Larter
- 29 Natalie Cole's dad31 Cry of discovery33 Parker or Montgomery 35 Dover's state: abbr. 37 "Grease: You're the One That I
- 38  $\overline{\text{Un}}$ refined metals

- 39 Well-known univ. in Texas
  40 "\_\_ of a Certain Age"
  41 Lyricist \_\_ Gershwin
  42 Cambridge institute, for short
  43 "Car 54, Where \_\_ You?"

#### **JUMBLE**



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When it came to choosing wrought iron or

chain link, they were - ON THE FENCE

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PLEDGE

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VERHEAR

0 0 T E R

D I S B A R

PEOPLE

N A P

LOUD

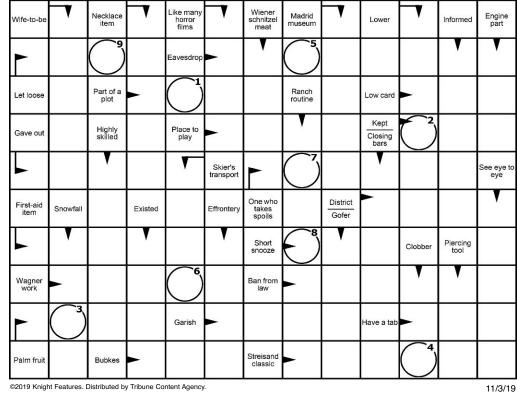
AREA

O W E

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

Jumbles: COMIC

Answer:

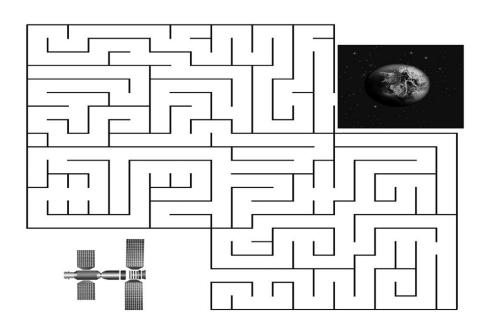


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2 3 6 8 9 5

#### **KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES**

8/23/15



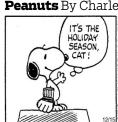


合合合合合

Find the seven differences between the two pictures.



#### **Peanuts** By Charles M. Schulz









Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau









Garfield By Jim Davis







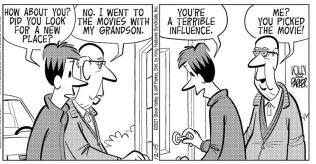
**Shoe** By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly





**Dustin** By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker





Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

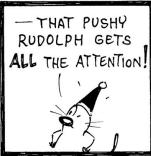




GONESOON SURE IS WHINY.

**Mutts** By Patrick McDonnell







Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt







**Jump Start** By Robb Armstrong









**Get Fuzzy** By Darby Conley



AGO





**Blondie** By Dean Young and John Marshall





#### **Dilbert** By Scott Adams







Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin







**Mary Worth** By Karen Moy and June Brigman









**Judge Parker** By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley





**Baldo** By Cantu and Castellanos









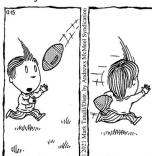
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk







**Lio** By Mark Tatulli









**Wizard Of Id** By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker







**Rhymes With Orange** By Hilary Price





**Monty** By Jim Meddick



#### For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

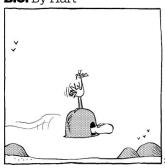


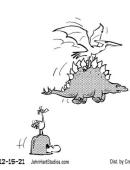






**B.C.** By Hart







#### **Beetle Bailey** by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





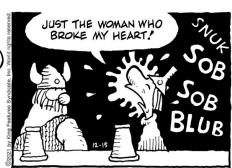
Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne





Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller





Curtis By Ray Billingsley









#### **Pickles** By Brian Crane









**Zits** By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman







Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer





**Mother Goose And Grimm** By Mike Peters





#### **CROSSWORD**

#### EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

55 "I do not see

56 Where many

57 Paris gal pal

58 Family CBS

sticks

why I should

a stuck thing

series set on

a self-named

mountain

Prejudice

62 Pole at sea

64 Is too busy,

disclaimer,

1 Google Maps

offerings

page

2 On the same

3 RV park vehicle

4 Vatican farewell

63 Undercut

say

65 Texter's

66 Change

Down

briefly

turn back": Frost

#### Across "Sleepy Hollow" actress Christina

- Scenic overlook offering 10 Tools with teeth
- 14 Broadcast warning sign
- Included in the email loop, briefly
- See 19-Across Enforcement arm of the fed. courts
- With 16-Across. staff symbol for
- viola music 20 Oopsy on the
- keys Feel out of sorts
- Somali-born supermodel
- 23 67.5 deg. 24 Streaming service whose
- logo ends with a math symbol Curtain
- material 30 Vegas opening? "How We
- Do (Party)' singer Rita 32 German suffix with
- Konzert 36 Technical sch.
- 37 What each set of circled letters spells ... and depicts 40 Works with
- hide "This tastes
- awful!" 42 CPR provider
- 43 Darth, as a youth Green stuff
- "What I Like 48 About You" co-star
- 53 In favor of Sciences partner

- 5 Like some bargain bin
- mdse. 6 Blocker in a TV
- "Show your cards'
- Sushi bar fare 9 Part of wpm:
- Abbr. 10 Rogue 11 The whole time
- 12 Professional who breastfeeds another's
- child 13 NorCal airport 18
- Syrup source \_got it!" 22
- "You said it!" 25 The Oscars,
  - say 26 Haute
  - Grabbed 27 a chair
  - Don of talk radio Singer Turner's memoir
  - 34 Indian "master"
- 56 Lower left PC key It can replace
- 'pie" in an idiom "Enough!" in

35 Barcelona aunt

36 Really enjoying

37 ABBA musical

Quebecer's

Common online

interruptions

Yank from the

46 "Thank U, Next"

47 Doctor Doogie

49 Desert trial

51 Not familiar

singer Ariana

neighbor

\_\_ cozy

39 Helps

soil

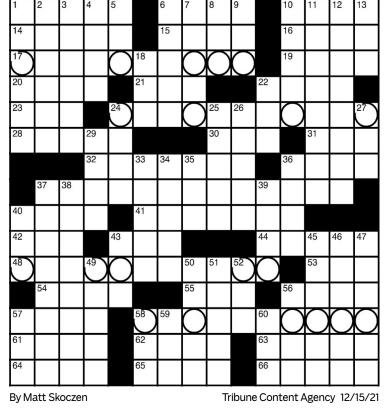
50 "Oy!"

with

52 Big Band

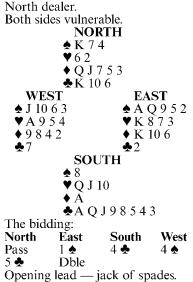
40

- texts
- 59 Bad actor
- 60 Grassy expanse



#### **BRIDGE**

BY STEVE BECKER



#### Defense is a twoway job Bridge is a partnership game, all right,

but the many components of the game that this statement encompasses are not always fully appreciated.

Most players think they are playing extremely well when they go through a long stretch without making a single mistake. However, they sometimes overlook the fact that they might have unwittingly contributed to an error made by their

Since this type of mistake obviously harms both players, any defender worth his salt will, if need be, go to extraordinary lengths to anticipate and prevent an error by his partner.

Consider this deal where East, a very good player paired with a weaker one, took command of the defense to defeat South's five-club contract. West led the jack of

Had East made the lazy play of ducking the jack after declarer followed low from

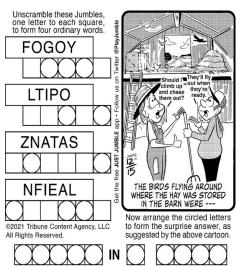
dummy, he might well have regretted it

West would probably have led another spade, and South would have made the contract by ruffing the spade, cashing the ace of diamonds, playing a club to the ten and leading the diamond queen through East's king. Declarer would then establish dummy's diamonds for two heart discards and so make five clubs doubled.

To prevent this from happening, East overtook the spade jack with the queen and played the king and another heart, quickly setting the contract. East reasoned that, on the bidding, declarer almost surely had a singleton spade and that West had either the ace of hearts or ace of diamonds. Shifting to the heart at trick two could therefore do no harm and might do a lot of good.

#### **Tomorrow:** Free for the asking. **JUMBLE**

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



Jumbles: ZESTY HOUSE REJECT NIBBLE They went tandem skydiving and were able to — "CHUTE" THE BREEZE

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS** 

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

#### **TODAY'S SUDOKU** Complete the grid so each

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ı	6	2	5	3	4	8	1	7	9
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2







## Surgeon general confirms kids are in crisis



Balancing Act

The U.S. surgeon general released a rare public advisory on Dec. 7 confirming what parents know in our bones: Kids are in crisis.

"The challenges today's generation of young people face are unprecedented and uniquely hard to navigate," Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy wrote. "And the effect these challenges have had on their mental health is devastating."

From 2009 to 2019, the proportion of high school students reporting persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness increased by 40%, the advisory states. The share seriously considering attempting suicide increased by 36%, and the share creating a suicide plan increased by 44%.

There were more than 6,600 deaths by suicide among 10-24 year olds in 2020, according to the advisory, and Black children are now nearly twice as likely to die by suicide than white children.

Research found that depressive and anxiety symptoms doubled during the pandemic, with 25% of young people experiencing depressive symptoms and 20% experiencing anxiety symptoms, the advisory reports.

But if we want to truly understand what kids are enduring, it's important not to overlook the landscape in which the pandemic has played out.

"During the pandemic," the advisory states, "young people also experienced other challenges that may have affected their mental and emotional wellbeing: the national reckoning over the deaths of Black Americans at the hands of police officers, including the



U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy tours King/Drew Magnet High School of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles on Dec. 6 before talking to a panel of students about mental health issues. CAROLYN COLE/LOS ANGELES TIMES

murder of George Floyd; COVID-related violence against Asian Americans: gun violence; an increasingly polarized political dialogue; growing concerns about climate change; and emotionally-charged

misinformation." The advisory, which you can read at hhs.gov/sites/ default/files/surgeongeneral-youth-mentalhealth-advisory.pdf, is not

without hope. "There is some cause for optimism," Murthy writes. "According to more than 50 years of research, increases in distress symptoms are common during disasters, but most people cope well and do not go on to develop mental health disorders. Several measures of distress that increased early in the pandemic appear to have returned to pre-pandemic levels by mid-2020. ... In addition, some young people thrived during the pandemic: They got more sleep, spent more quality time with family, experienced less academic stress and bullying, had more flexible schedules,

and improved their coping

The 53-page advisory lists steps for families, schools and health care providers to take on behalf of young people. It lists online resources for guidance on recognizing warning signs and finding mental health professionals. It calls for expanding school-based mental health workforces. (Yes. Please.)

I'm going to throw in one more resource.

Brene Brown — research professor at the University of Houston with a master's degree in social work and five No. 1 New York Times bestsellers — has a new book out called "Atlas of the Heart." In it. she writes:

"We need hope like we need air. To live without hope is to risk suffocating on hopelessness and despair, risk being crushed by the belief that there is no way out of what is holding us back, no way to get to what we desperately need."

(From 2009 to 2019, remember, the proportion of high school students reporting persistent

sadness or hopelessness increased by 40%.)

"Hope is a function of struggle," Brown writes. "We develop hope not during the easy or comfortable times, but through adversity and discomfort. Hope is forged when our goals, pathways and agency are tested and when change is actually possible."

It's also learned behavior, she writes, and children most often learn it (or don't) from their parents.

She writes about permanence and pervasiveness. Both can turn hopelessness into despair.

"When I'm really scared, worried, overwhelmed, stressed about what's happening and trying to find perspective," she writes, "I ask myself: Will this issue be a big deal in five minutes? Five hours? Five days? Five months? Five years?"

That strikes me as a powerful tool. Brown also writes about

belonging.

all people," she writes. "In

'Love and belonging are irreducible needs for

the absence of these experiences, there is always

suffering." She once asked a group of eighth-graders to explain the difference between belonging and fitting in. For many tweens and teens, she writes, belonging or not belonging feels like life or death.

I know from talking to adolescent therapists that parents' well-intentioned advice can sometimes come across as disappointment or shame.

"It's very hard not to jump in and say, 'Yeah but you're just sitting in your room! If you would just go out! Go to the football game! That's easy! You're going to see people there!"" family therapist John Duffy, with whom I do a podcast, told me recently. "And fine. That may be true. But if a kid's not heard, they're going to know and they're going to be right - 'You don't really get it. You're not hearing me here. I'm having a really hard time."

Brown was on Glennon Doyle's "We Can Do Hard Things" podcast recently, and Doyle closed the episode, as she often does, with a plea: Can you give us one easy thing we can do to help our people?

When we see someone in struggle, reframe 'I'm here to fix' to 'I'm here to walk with," Brown said. "When I see my kids suffering and they say, 'This happened at school and it was so painful' and I jump in to fix it rather than sitting in the pain with them, I have severed connection for the sake of control. ... When we see someone struggle, especially someone we care about, say, 'My job is to be in connection with, not to

Earlier in the episode, Brown talked about not making her high school's drill team, and how her disappointment was amplified by what she perceived as her parents' shame.

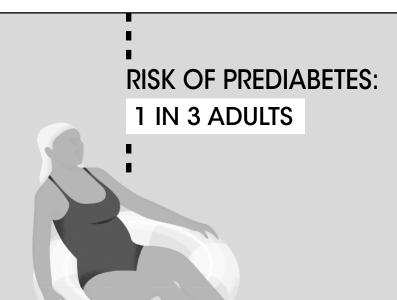
"All I really needed was for one of my parents to say, '(Screw) that drill team.' And, 'God, that sucks.'"

Empathy. Connection. Belonging.

These are not systemic fixes. They're not solutions to a mental health crisis. They're not replacements for getting our kids access to mental health professionals, which is every bit as important as access to pediatricians and dentists and other experts in their physical wellbeing.

But they're nudges away from isolation, where hopelessness and despair can flourish. They're nudges toward each other. And I will seize them and hang on to them like life preservers and let them buoy me and my family. And maybe they can help buoy you and yours too.

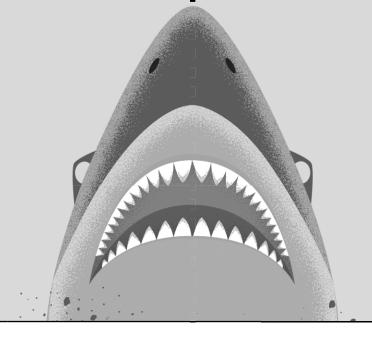
Heidi Stevens is a Tribune News Service columnist. You can reach her at heidikstevens@gmail.com, find her on Twitter @heidistevens13 or ioin her Heidi Stevens' Balancing Act Facebook group.



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# SPORTS

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**UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** 

## Bueckers eyes Feb. return after surgery

By Alexa Philippou Hartford Courant

The UConn women's basketball team announced Tuesday that sophomore star Paige Bueckers underwent a successful surgery on her left knee Monday afternoon at UConn Health.

The operation repaired the anterior tibial plateau fracture and a previously unannounced lateral meniscus tear that Bueckers sustained during UConn's win against Notre Dame on Dec. 5.

The school said Bueckers' esti-

mated recovery time will be eight weeks. A UConn spokesperson was unable to clarify whether the eight week "recovery" timeline meant she'd be able to return to game play in that many weeks, but if so, that would place her return the week of Feb. 7.

When UConn coach Geno Auriemma first brought up that Bueckers was considering surgery Saturday after the Huskies beat UCLA in the Never Forget Tribute Classic, he mentioned a mid-February or late February return at the when the Huskies take on Villanova, she'd ultimately miss 18 games in all. Either way, with that timeline, the Huskies must complete the remainder of their nonconference schedule, which includes matchups against Oregon (Jan. 17), South Carolina (Jan. 27) and Tennessee (Feb. 6) without their reigning national player of

The school initially said Bueckers would be out six to eight weeks

Turn to Bueckers, Page 4



UConn's Paige Bueckers, left, steals the ball from Notre Dame's Mava Dodson on Dec. 5 in Storrs. JESSICA HILL/AP

#### **CORONAVIRUS & SPORTS**

## Beckham one of many pro athletes with COVID right now

**By Dennis Young** New York Daily News

NEW YORK - Professional sports are going through the same nightmare as the rest of the country right now: the combination of initial vaccinations wearing off and new variants is resulting in a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases. Combine that with far better access to far better tests, and the three North American sports leagues currently in season are experiencing record COVID levels.

Two NFL stars were among those who tested positive on Tuesday, according to reports: Rams receiver Odell Beckham Jr. and Panthers running back Christian McCaffrey.

The leagues, which all claim 90% or greater vaccination rates, have been hesitant to shut down competition, only postponing Bulls games when a whopping 10 Chicago players were infected in that team's outbreak. But more NBA games are likely to be postponed.

The Rams shut their facility after a batch of positives including Beckham and Jalen Ramsey, who tested positive before LA's Monday night win over the Cardinals.

An NFL-record 37 players tested positive Monday, including Giants receiver Kadarius Toney. That's double the league's previous single-day high. By Tuesday, eight Browns and four WFTers were on the COVID list.

The NFL spike is likely partially a reflection of most teams doing their once-weekly tests for vaccinated players on Mondays. But the state of the NBA (and the United States) makes it clear that COVID is going to be more disruptive in pro sports than it has been for months.

Turn to COVID, Page 2



Rams wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. celebrates his touchdown against the Cardinals during the first half Monday in Glendale, Ariz. RICK SCUTERI/AP

#### ST. FRANCIS (PA.) 81, HARTFORD 66



Hartford's Moses Flowers (4) drives to the basket against St. Francis, Pa., defender Steve Cohen during the inaugural Jack Phelan Classic on Tuesday night. STEVE MCLAUGHLIN PHOTOGRAPHY/HANDOUT

# Seeing Red Flashes

#### St. Francis (Pa.) defeats University of Hartford at Jack Phelan Classic

**By Lori Riley** Hartford Courant

WEST HARTFORD - University of Hartford men's basketball coach John Gallagher and St. Francis (Pa.) coach Rob Krimmel were recruiting in Atlantic City, N.J., in July when they started talking about a game to honor the late Jack Phelan, whom they both knew and who had played at St. Francis and coached at Hartford.

Each team had a nonconference hole in their schedules and out of that conversation came the Jack Phelan Classic, held at the University of Hartford Tuesday night.

The game didn't go quite the way Hartford wanted it and the Jack Phelan Classic trophy went home with St. Francis with the Red Flash winning, 81-66. Ronell Giles Jr. led St. Francis (4-5) and Hartford, which fell to 1-9, was led by Moses Flowers' 23 points.

About 200 family members and friends of Jack Phelan - who coached at Hartford from 1981-92 through the school's transition from Division II to Division I in 1984-85 - came to Chase Arena Tuesday, as well as former players and fellow high school athletic

Phelan died in July 2020 at age His wife, Patti, and their sons

66. He had been the Farmington High athletic director for 17 years.

Jack, Patrick and Ken received a plaque at center court before the

"Jack and I met at St. Francis," Patti said. "We'd been together for 45 years at the time of his death. We had a big love for our years at St. Francis. We both felt that our years at St. Francis helped to mold us into the adults we became.

"And we loved the University of Turn to UHart, Page 4

**COLLEGE SPORTS** COMMENTARY

## Latest NIL twist: Millions being pledged to athletes

By Jim Vertuno Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Six months after one of the biggest rule changes in the history of college sports, money for athletes is being pledged by the millions in a development that has raised concerns about the role of wealthy alumni eager to back

their beloved alma maters. At Texas, one group is

dangling \$50,000 a year for individual offensive linemen while another says it already has \$10 million promised for Longhorns athletes. At Oregon, billioniare Nike founder Phil Knight is part of group helping Ducks athletes line up deals — just one of many interested parties with deep

pockets jumping in alongside the apparel companies, energy drink companies, car dealerships and restaurants already signing athletes to endorsement deals.

College football's first national signing day arrives this week in this new money era. With few rules governing how it all works, the push to dangle cash in front of players already in uniform and

lure future stars to campus has created a new, rapidly expanding frontier in college sports with so-called "collectives" and even nonprofits popping up to play

"It is the wild, wild West," said Todd Berry, executive director of the American Football Coaches

Turn to NIL, Page 4

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#### **UP NEXT**

Patriots: at Colts, Saturday, 8:15 p.m. Giants: Cowboys, Sunday, 1 p.m. Jets: at Dolphins, Sunday,

**UConn MBB:** Providence (XL), Saturday, 5 p.m.; at Marquette, Tuesday, 9 p.m.; at Xavier, Dec. 28, 7 p.m.

UConn WBB: Basketball HoF Women's Showcase: vs. Louisville (Mohegan Sun), Sunday, 3:30 p.m.; Marquette (XL), Dec. 29, 7 p.m.; at DePaul, Dec. 31,

Celtics: Warriors, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Knicks, Saturday, 7 p.m.; 76ers, Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Knicks: at Rockets, Thursday, 8 p.m.; at Celtics, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Pistons, Tuesday, 7:30

Nets: 76ers, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Magic, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Nuggets, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

UConn hockey: at Harvard, Jan. 2, 7 p.m.; at Boston Coll., Jan. 8, 4 p.m.; Boston Univ., Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

Bruins: at Islanders, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; at Canadiens, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Senators, Sunday, 5 p.m.

Rangers: at Coyotes, Wednesday, 9 p.m.; Knights, Friday, 7 p.m.; Canadiens, Dec. 22, 7 p.m. Wolf Pack: Lehigh Valley, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Springfield, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Springfield,

#### TV/RADIO **BASKETBALL**

Sunday, 3 p.m.

6:30 p.m.: Ball State at Xavier. (Live) FS1 7 p.m.: Lipscomb at Miami. (Live) ACC 7 p.m.: North Florida at Florida. (Live) SEC 7 p.m.: Connecticut at West Virginia. (Live)

7 p.m.: Womens College: Iowa at Iowa State. (Live)

7:30 p.m.: Milwaukee Bucks at Miami Heat. (Live) ESPN

8:30 p.m.: Maryland-Baltimore County at Georgetown. (Live) FS1 9 p.m.: Cornell at Virginia Tech. (Live) ACC

9 p.m.: Marquette at Kansas State. (Live) 9 p.m.: Towson at Ohio

State. (Live) ESPNU 10:05 p.m.: Portland Trail Blazers at Golden State Warriors. (Live) ESPN 2 a.m.: Milwaukee Bucks at Miami Heat. (Sameday Tape) ESPN2 **GOLF** 

7 p.m.: 2021 Notah Begay III Junior National Championship. (Sameday Tape) GOLF

**HOCKEY** 7 p.m.: Colorado Avalanche at New York Rangers. (Live) NHL 9 p.m.: Boston Bruins at Vancouver Canucks.

(Live) SPRTNET 9 p.m.: New York Rangers at Arizona Coyotes. (Live),

10 p.m.: Dallas Stars at Vegas Golden Knights. (Live) TNT

**SOCCER** 2:50 p.m.: Fútbol UEFA Champions League (Live)

**TENNIS** 

6 a.m.: ATP Tennis Florianópolis-ATP Challenger, Maia-ATP Challenger, Early Rounds. (Live) TENNIS 2:30 p.m.: ATP Tennis Florianópolis-ATP

Challenger, Early Rounds.

**GIANTS** 

## Judge sees support from Mara, Tisch

By Pat Leonard New Yrok Daily News

NEW YORK - Giants co-owner Steve Tisch waved a polite hello and did not break stride coming out of the SoFi Stadium visitors' locker room Sunday with an entourage.

He left the stadium loudly, in a black Mercedes sprinter van at the back of a motorcade led by three California Highway Patrol police officers on thundering motorcycles.

No one needs to hear Tisch speak to know that a general manager change is a fait accompli.

The question at the moment, though, is whether ownership's strong support of head coach Joe Judge has wavered at all.

Judge said Monday, just hours after seeing Tisch in L.A., that he feels ownership's support and shared perspective in prioritizing a long-term rebuild toward sustain-

"I'm not interested in shortcuts. I'm not interested in quick fixes," Judge said. "I want to do this the right way, and when I took this job, I made it very, very clear that I was

only going to do this if we were all committed to doing this the right way. And that's been something that's been very clear from ownership on down. I'm very happy with the support that ownership gives."

John Mara has said consistently he believes in Judge's vision, as well.

The 4-9 record, Daniel Jones' injury and consecutive losses have stamped out all optimism for this season. But Judge said nothing is more important to him than delivering on his promise to rebuild the Giants "the right way."

He feels the Giants have "poured the foundation" and that they are headed in the right direction.

"Both families are tremendous people to work for, and I know that this team is very, very important to them," Judge said of Mara and Tisch. "It's their family business. Football's my family business, too. I take a lot of pride in what we do."

Understandably, it is difficult for fans to hear Judge say that the Giants are making progress "internally" even though "sometimes that is tough to see externally." Wins and losses are what matter most, after all,

as Judge said himself. But here's what was most interesting about traveling with the Giants to Tucson, Ariz., last week:

We had the privilege of seeing the progress behind the scenes that is not showing up on game days.

We got to see the detailed preparation and successful execution firsthand in practices, only days before we then watched it all collapse when it counted in Inglewood, Calif.

Giants punter Riley Dixon, for example, threw an on-target dart to gunner Keion Crossen while running a fake punt in practice last week. Crossen button-hooked for the back-shoulder throw, made an all-hands catch and raced upfield on the University of Arizona's practice field.

Then the Giants got to Sunday's third quarter against the Chargers, Crossen was open across the first down marker to Dixon's right, and Dixon airmailed his throw into the Giants' bench.

Go to the second quarter. Mike Glennon's offense gained -2 yards on three plays with starting field position at the Chargers' 41. On

all three plays, Glennon was either

off-target or throwing to a covered receiver when he had another open.

The most obvious was his gross third-down throw behind Devontae Booker. These were routine throws he'd made in practice that the Giants had confidence in him completing in a game.

They couldn't even kick a field goal. They had to punt, and Dixon babied it 18 yards.

Stay in that second quarter.

The Giants simulated Justin Herbert's roll right, throwback left downfield bombs for their safeties all week in practice. Jones, not taking practice snaps and looking for some way to help the team, ran one drill in which he repeatedly faked a hand-off, rolled right and threw the ball 55-to-60 yards in the air to his left.

Logan Ryan, Xavier McKinney and the safeties practiced tracking the deep ball and picking it off. The scout-team offense would have run these plays in a live period, too.

But Ryan and McKinney were helpless when Herbert cocked back and launched his 63-yard moonshot over their heads to Jalen Guyton for the touchdown.



Patriots quarterback Mac Jones acknowledges fans after a game agains the Titans on Nov. 28 at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Mass, BOSTON HERALD

**PATRIOTS** COMMENTARY

## It's AFC Championship game or bust for Pats

By Karen Guregian

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The Patriots started off this year like they were going to make it two straight seasons without making a postseason appearance.

And that alone would have been disappointing, especially given all the loot spent in free agency.

The narrative has clearly changed.

It would be a disappointment if they not only didn't make it to the tournament, but didn't advance to the AFC Championship game at the very least.

So what are the biggest keys for them to stay on point, and land in that AFC Championship game, and possibly beyond?

1. Secure the bye: The top seed and accompanying first-round bye is theirs for certain if they win out. And, considering all the variables, they just might have to run the board to make that happen.

Looking at the primary competition for the top spot, the Titans and Chiefs also improved to 9-4 with wins Sunday. The Patriots have the head-to-head tiebreaker over the Titans, and the conference record tiebreaker over the Chiefs (7-1 compared with 4-4).

The Titans have a soft schedule to close out the season, and are getting healthier, while the Chiefs, winners of six in a row, look like they've hit their stride.

One loss in any of the remaining games could prove deadly for the Patriots when it comes to landing the coveted top seed.

2. Remain bend-but-don't-break defensively: Asked Rodney Harrison last week if the Patriots had a championship-caliber defense. He didn't hesitate with the answer: "Absolutely," he said.

Statistically, the Patriots have the top-rated scoring defense after 14 weeks.

They're allowing just 15.4 points per game on the year. During the seven-game win streak, it drops to 10.4 ppg.

With a defense that's kept the score down, it takes some of the pressure off rookie quarterback Mac Jones.

With the exception of the Dallas game, he hasn't had to match scores in a high-scoring game. He hasn't had to rally and play from behind too many times.

So if the defense stays the course, that enhances their chances to run the table.

3.Improve in the red zone: Entering Week14, the Patriots were ranked 26th in the red area, converting just 54.4% of the time. And while there's been improvement -60.7%since Week 7 — it's not good enough to make noise down the road.

While Nick Folk has been a godsend converting field-goal chances, they're going to need more.

To this point, the play-calling in the money area has leaned toward being conservative. Josh McDaniels has been reluctant to have Jones throw into many tight windows. He might have to loosen his grip going forward.

4. Continue using brains and brawn: Until someone can stop the running game, keep playing bully ball. Along with defense, that's how the Patriots are built, leading with the ground and pound.

Running backs coach Ivan Fears loves how well his group has performed, with Damien Harris, Rhamondre Stevenson and Brandon Bolden doing all the damage.

But the Patriots also want to be smart

**5. Stay healthy:** For the most part, the Patriots have been healthy during the season. They lost two important cogs James White and Jonathan Jones — for the season, but have done well to make up for the absences of their third-down back and slot corner.

## Wilson making better decisions, but focus now on eyes

Associated Press

NEW YORK - Zach Wilson bounced a few passes, sailed a few others over receivers' heads — and his eyes were all over the place.

The New York Jets rookie quarterback followed up perhaps his best performance in the pros with one of his worst. He wasn't helped by a handful of drops, either. But taking a step back this late in the season is a troubling development.

"I don't think it's obvious or easy or everyone would play quarterback if it was easy," Wilson said after he went 19 of 42 for 202 yards in a 30-9 loss to New Orleans on Sunday. "I think part of it is really just trusting what I see. Throwing's always been, I feel like, my strong suit my entire life. Throwing the ball has always been easy, so I just need to make it easy.

"I've got to trust what I'm

And the Jets need to trust Wilson can improve on the shortcomings and struggles that have marked his first

"Zach is the future of this organization," coach Robert Saleh said Monday. "He's the No. 2 pick, he's extremely talented, he's got a great head on his shoulders, he's a phenomenal young man and these are the types of games he has to go through. He has to learn how to play football in the NFL. He has to get these reps."

Wilson played without wide receivers Corey Davis and Elijah Moore and running backs Michael Carter and Tevin Coleman, forcing Wilson to play without some of his best playmakers. But great quarterbacks raise the level of those around them, and Wilson is clearly far from being that.

It comes with supreme confidence, and that comes from consistently good performances. In the final four games of the season, it will be imperative for the Throwing's always been, I feel like, my strong suit my entire life. Throwing the ball has always been easy, so I just need to make it easy. I've got to trust what I'm seeing."

- Zach Wilson, Jets QB

Jets to do what they can to make sure Wilson is trending up as they enter the offseason.

"He handles it in stride," center Connor McGovern said. "He does not lack confi-

Since Wilson returned from a four-game injury absence, Saleh said the Jets have been working "relentlessly" on his tempo, footwork and eyes, him working through progressions and not overanalyzing what he's

The coach thought Wilson's overall tempo was "pretty good," but his eye placement wasn't as consistent against New Orleans as it was in the Jets' loss to Philadelphia last week.

"In Houston (two weeks ago), you could point to his footwork," Saleh said. "I thought all of it was working against Philadelphia in the first half. And then yesterday, you can point to his eyes. Just stuffthat we've got to remain consistent with as it pertains to his playing ability."

One positive for Wilson on Sunday: It marked the first time he played a full game and didn't throw an interception.

"He took some jumps," Saleh said. "Obviously it wasn't where he wants to be, but at the same time, I do think with his decision-making over the past couple of weeks, it's getting better."

#### COVID

(Live) TENNIS

from Page 1

The Lakers canceled practice Tuesday after Talen Horton-Tucker tested positive for the virus. At least five Nets are in the protocols, but they're still scheduled to host the Raptors in Brooklyn Tuesday night,

Even hockey, where the NHL says all but four players are vaccinated, has struggled with an uptick in infections. A half-dozen Calgary Flames tested positive, shutting that team down until at least Dec. 18. Tuesday night's Hurricane-Wild game was postponed after six Hurricanes caught the virus; 15 players in total went on the NHL COVID list Tuesday. (Earlier this season, an outbreak on the Islanders that infected at least eight players shut the team down in the middle of an eight-game losing streak. They finally picked up the first win at their new Belmont Park arena on Saturday.)

In response, the NFL has required booster shots for non-player staff. About 200 NBA players — roughly half the league — have received boosters, according to ESPN. The league has previously said that players and staffers who aren't boosted by Friday will face increased testing and restrictions.

The infections have been a mixed bag. Most players have reported minor symptoms, with the biggest drag being on their conditioning. But serious cases continue to occasionally crop up. Sixers center Joel Embiid, who was vaccinated and notoriously cautious about all things virus-related, missed three weeks after testing positive. "I really thought I wasn't going to make it. It was that bad," Embiid said when he returned at the end of last month. "I couldn't breathe. ... The headaches were worse than a migraine. And the whole body was just done. So it was not a good time."

### **GOLDEN KNIGHTS 4, BRUINS 1**

#### Pacioretty scores twice as Vegas beats depleted Boston

**By Jimmy Golen** Associated Press

BOSTON - Max Pacioretty scored – twice – in his seventh straight game to lead the Vegas Golden Knights to a 4-1 victory over the COVID-depleted Boston Bruins twice on Tuesday night.

Robin Lehner made 23 saves for the Golden Knights, who won for the fifth time in six games. Shea Theodore also scored for Vegas, and Jonathan Marchessault had a goal with 0.6 seconds left in the first period to send the Bruins to their locker room to the boos of the hometown crowd.

Hours after the Bruins put leading scorer Brad Marchand in the COVID-19 protocol, and one day after coach Bruce Cassidy returned from his positive test, the Bruins lost snapped a two-game winning streak. Patrice Bergeron scored their first goal 21 seconds in the third period — when Vegas was up by four goals - and Jeremy Swayman stopped 21 shots.

Vegas put on the pressure early, scoring three times in the first period. The first two were two minutes apart, starting with Theodore seven minutes left in the first and then Chandler Stephenson made a long pass to Pacioretty, who beat Swayman to make it 2-0.

The Golden Knights got a power play with 19 seconds left in the period. As the final second drained from the clock, Marchessault's pass deflected off two Bruins and through Swayman's legs to make it 3-0.

After booing the team off the ice at the end of the first, the crowd tried to fire it up to start the second with a chant of "Let's go Bruins!" But five minutes in, Pacioretty scored again for his 58th career multigoal game. He also has 12 goals in 11 games.

#### In the protocol

The Bruins were the last team to play Calgary before the Flames' season was put on hold Monday due to having six players and one staffer in the COVID-19 protocol.

On Tuesday, Boston put Marchand and fellow forward Craig Smith in the NHL's COVID-19 protocol.

Boston recalled forwards Jack Studnicka and Oskar Steen on an emergency basis to fill out the lineup.

#### SCOREBOARD

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EASTERN CONFI ATLANTIC	W	NCE L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	19	8	.704	_
Philadelphia	15	13	.536	4 1/2
Boston	14	14	.500	5 1/2
Toronto	13	14	.481	6
New York	12	15	.444	7
SOUTHEAST	w	L	PCT	GB
Miami	16	12	.571	_
Washington	15	13	.536	.1
Charlotte	15	14	.517	1 1/2
Atlanta	13	14	.481	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Orlando	5	23	.179	11
CENTRAL	w	L	PCT	GB
Chicago	17	10	.630	_
Milwaukee	18	11	.621	_
Cleveland	17	12	.586	1
Indiana	12	17	.414	12.1/
Detroit	4	22	.154	12 ½
WESTERN CONF				-
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	17	11	.607	
Dallas	14	13	.519	2 1/2
San Antonio	10	16	.385	6 7½
Houston	9	18 21	.333	9 1/2
New Orleans	ð	21	.276	9 72
NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Utah	19	7	.731	- 17
Denver	14	13	.519	5 1/2
Minnesota	12	15	.444	7 1/2
Portland	11	16	.407	8 1/2
Oklahoma City	8	18	.308	11
PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Golden State	22	5	.815	
Phoenix	21	5	.808	1/2
L.A. Clippers	16	12	.571	6 1/2
L.A. Lakers	15	13	.536	7 1/2
Sacramento	11	17	.393	$11\frac{1}{2}$
Sacramento	11	17		.393

Toronto at Brooklyn, late Phoenix at Portland, late Detroit at Chicago, ppd.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES Atlanta at Orlando, 7p.m. Houston at Cleveland, 7p.m. Miami at Philadelphia, 7p.m. L.A. Lakers at Dallas, 7:30p.m. Indiana at Milwaukee, 8p.m. New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 8p.m. Charlotte at San Antonio, 8:30p.m. Minnesota at Denver, 9p.m. L.A. Clippers at Utah, 10p.m. Memphis at Portland, 10p.m. Washington at Sacramento, 10p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES Detroit at Indiana, 7p.m. Chicago at Toronto, ppd Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 7:30p.m. New York at Houston, 8p.m. Washington at Phoenix, 9p.m.

MONDAY'S RESULTS Toronto 124, Sacramento 101 Cleveland 105, Miami 94 Golden State 102, Indiana 100 Boston 117, Milwaukee 103 Houston 132, Atlanta 126 Memphis 126, Philadelphia 91 Dallas 120, Charlotte 96 Denver 113, Washington 107 L.A. Clippers 111, Phoenix 95

EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New England	9	4	0	.692	350	200
Buffalo	7	6	0	.538	363	229
Miami	6	7	0	.462	254	288
N.Y. Jets	3	10	0	.231	226	397
SOUTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	PA
Tennessee	9	4	0	.692	324	290
Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	371	283
Houston	2	11	0	.154	177	356
Jacksonville	2	11	0	.154	180	340
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Baltimore	8	5	0	.615	304	284
Cincinnati	7	6	0	.538	354	293
Cleveland	7	6	0	.538	278	289
Pittsburgh	6	6	1	.500	272	322
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Kansas City	9	4	0	.692	351	268
L.A. Chargers	8	5	0	.615	351	336
Denver	7	6	0	.538	275	228
Las Vegas	6	7	0	463	283	260

Las vegas	6	1	U	.462	283	36
NATIONAL C	10:	IFE	REN	CE		
EAST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P/
Dallas	9	4	0	.692	380	287
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	337	29
Washington	6	7	0	.462	266	324
N.Y. Giants	4	9	0	.308	232	310
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	P/
Tampa Bay	10	3	0	.769	410	29
Atlanta	6	7	0	.462	245	353
New Orleans	6	7	0	.462	304	285
Carolina	5	8	0	.385	257	282
NORTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P/
Green Bay	10	3	0	.769	328	272
Minnesota	6	7	0	.462	344	333
Chicago	4	9	0	.308	231	33
Detroit	1	11	1	.115	213	354
WEST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P/
Arizona	10	3	0	.769	366	25
L.A. Rams	9	4	0	.692		
San Francisco	7	6	0	.538	329	30
Seattle	5	8	0	.385	272	26

**WEEK 15** THURSDAY'S GAME Kansas City at L.A. Chargers, 8:20p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES Las Vegas at Cleveland, 4:30p.m. New England at Indianapolis, 8:20p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES Arizona at Detroit, 1p.m. Carolina at Buffalo, 1p.m. Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 1p.m. Houston at Jacksonville, 1p.m. N.Y. Jets at Miami, 1p.m. Tennessee at Pittsburgh, 1p.m. Washington at Philadelphia, 1p.m. Atlanta at San Francisco, 4:05p.m. Cincinnati at Denver, 4:05p.m.

Green Bay at Baltimore, 4:25p.m. Seattle at L.A. Rams, 4:25p.m. New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 8:20p.m.								
MONDAY'S GAME Minnesota at Chicago, 8:15p.m.								
LATE MONDAY L.A. RAMS 30,		ONA	23			Mus Teni		
L.A. Rams			3	_	30	Pea		
	3 10	0	10	_	23	Mic		
First Quarter		_				Las Wis		
Ari: FG Prater 53,	10:58	3.						
Second Quarter						Gate		
LAR: Beckham 2	oass f	rom S	Staff	ord		Bois		
(Gay kick), 12:53						CFP		
<b>LAR:</b> FG Gay 55, 7						Alab		
Ari: Conner 1run		er ki	ck), 3	:18.		CFP		
LAR: FG Gay 35,:						Geo		
Ari: FG Prater 53,	:00.					Out		
Third Quarter						Pen		
LAR: Jefferson 52		trom	Stat	tord		Fies		
(Gay kick), 13:36		CT-E	/			Noti		
LAR: Kupp 4pass	Irom	Stan	ora (	Gdy		Citr		
kick), 9:45. Fourth Quarter						Ken		
Ari: Conner 8run	(Drat	or ki	ا ا ۱	3.38		Rose		
LAR: FG Gav 33. 7		ei ki	,K), I	3.30.		Ohio		
Ari: FG Prater 49.						NFL		
All. I d Flatel 43,	.51.					FAV		
TEAM STATS			LAR	A	RI	Kan		
First downs			18		22	at C		
Total net yards			356	4	47	at Ir		
Rushes-yards		2		22-1		4011		
Passing			267		44	at B		
Punt returns			0-0		0-0	Ariz		
141 - 1 66 1			1 27					

TEAM STATS	LAR	ARI
First downs	18	22
Total net yards	356	447
Rushes-yards	21-89	22-103
Passing	267	344
Punt returns	0-0	0-0
Kickoff returns	1-27	0-0
Interceptions ret.	2-42	0-0
Comp-att-int	23-30-0	32-49-2
Sacked-yards lost	3-20	4-39
Punts	3-40.0	1-52.0
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	5-40	7-54
Time of possession	29:04	30:56

RUSHING: L.A. Rams, Michel 20-79, Jefferson 1-10. Arizona, K.Murray 7-61, Conner 13-31, Moore 2-11.

PASSING: L.A. Rams, Stafford 23-30-0-287. Arizona, K.Murray 32-49-2-383. **RECEIVING:** L.A. Rams, Kupp 13-123, Beckham 6-77, Jefferson 2-58, Blanton 2-29. Arizona, Conner 9-94, Green 7-102, Hopkins 5-54, Ertz 5-42, Kirk 3-86 INTERCEPTIONS: L.A. Rams, E.Jones

1-31, Floyd 1-11. Arizona, None

NHL							
EASTERN C	ON	FEI	REI	NCI	E		
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Florida	27	18	5	4	40	101	75
Tampa Bay	28	18	6	4	40	92	76
Toronto	29	19	8	2	40	93	75
Boston	25	14	9	2	30	70	66
Detroit	28	13	12	3	29	78	96
Buffalo	27	8	15	4	20	73	97
Ottawa	25	8	16	1	17	674	107
METRO.	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Washington	28	17	5	6	40	97	71
Carolina	27	19	7	1	39	85	58
N.Y. Rangers	27	18	6	3	39	79	68
Pittsburgh	28	15	8	5	35	85	72
Columbus	26	14	11	1	29	86	86
New Jersey	26	10	11	5	25	74	86
Philadelphia		10	12	4	24	65	88
N.Y. Islanders	23	7	11	5	19	50	70
WESTERN CO							
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Minnesota	28	19	8	1	39	106	82
Nashville	28	17	10	1	35	81	75
St. Louis	28	15	8	5	35	96	79
Colorado	25	16	7	2	34	109	84
Winnipeg	27	13	9	5	31	82	76
Dallas	25	13	10	2	28	69	70
Chicago	27	10	15	2	22	62	86
Arizona	27	5	20	2	12	48	101
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GΑ

**NOTE:** Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs

 Vegas
 28
 17
 11
 0
 34

 Edmonton
 26
 16
 10
 0
 32

 San Jose
 28
 15
 12
 1
 13

 Los Angeles
 27
 12
 10
 5
 29

 Vancouver
 29
 12
 15
 2
 26

 Seattle
 27
 9
 15
 3
 21

30 16 9 5 37 28 15 7 6 36

28 17 11 0 34

Anaheim Calgary

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES Washington at Chicago, 8p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Arizona, 9p.m. Seattle at Anaheim, 10p.m.

MONDAY'S RESULTS

ODDS		
COLLEGE BASI FAVORITE	KETBALL LINE	WEDNESDAY UNDERDOG
at Ohio	51/2	Marshall
at VCU	101/2	Florida Atlantic
at Missouri St.	. 4	S. Dakota State
at Wright St.	21/2	Akron
UCF	4	at Temple
at Mississippi	91/2	Mid Tenn
at S. Illinois	111/2	SE Missouri St.
at Xavier	161/2	Morehead St.
at USC	111/2	UC Irvine
at Arizona	231/2	No. Colorado
at Oregon	171/2	Portland
Utah State	21/2	at Weber St.
at Wash. St.	8	New Mexico St.
at UNLV	181/2	Omaha
NBA		WEDNESDAY

NBA		W	EDNESDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	E O/U	UNDERDO
at Cleveland	81/2	(off)	Houstor
Atlanta	71/2	(off)	at Orlando
at Philadelphia	ι off	(off)	Miam
at Dallas	off	(off)	LA Lakers
New Orleans	11/2	(2101/2)	at Okla. City
at Milwaukee	off	(off)	Indiana
at San Antonio	31/2	(off)	Charlotte
at Denver	41/2	(off)	Minnesota
at Sacramento	off	(off)	Washingtor
at Portland	1	(off)	Memphis
at Utah	off	(off)	LA Clippers
	at Cleveland Atlanta at Philadelphia at Dallas New Orleans at Milwaukee at San Antonio at Denver at Sacramento at Portland	AVORITE LINE at Cleveland 81/4 Atlanta 71/2 at Philadelphia off at Dallas off New Orleans 11/2 at Milwaukee off at San Antonio 31/2 at Denver 41/2 at Sacramento off at Portland 1	AVORITE LINE O/U at Cleveland 8½ (off) Atlanta 7½ (off) at Philadelphia off (off) at Dallas off (off) New Orleans 1½ (210½) at Milwaukee off (off) at San Antonio 3½ (off) at Denver 4½ (off) at Sacramento off (off) at Portland 1 (off)

COLLEGE FOOT			DAY NDERDOG
	LIN	E U/U U	NDEKDOG
Bahamas Bowl			
Toledo	10	$(51\frac{1}{2})$	Mid Tenn
Cure Bowl			
Coastal Carolina	101/	2(63½)	N. Illinois
<b>Boca Raton Bowl</b>			Saturday
<b>Boca Raton Bowl</b> Appalachian St.	3	(68) W.	Kentucky
<b>New Mexico Bow</b>	ı		
Fresno State		ź (51)	UTEP
Independence Bo			
BYU	7	$(54\frac{1}{2})$	UAB
LendingTree Bow	1		
Liberty	9	$(58\frac{1}{2})E$	. Michgian
LA Bowl			
Oregon State	7	$(67\frac{1}{2})$	Utah St.
<b>New Orleans Bow</b>	/l		
LaLafayette	5	(55)	Marshall
Myrtle Beach Boy			
Tulsa			
Famous Idaho Po	tato	<b>Bowl Tu</b>	e., Dec. 21
Wyoming	3	(59)	Kent St.
Frisco Bowl			
UTSA	21/2	(50) Sa	n Diego St.
<b>Armed Forces Bo</b>	wl	Wee	d., Dec. 22

Army	3	1/2	(58	1/2)	Missour
Thursday, Dec. 2	23				
Frisco Football (	clas	si	C	Th	u., Dec. 23
Miami (Ohio)		3	(54	1/2)	N. Texas
Gasparilla Bowl					
Florida		7	(56	1/2)	UCF
Hawaii Bowl			F	rida	ay, Dec. 24
Memphis	7	1/2	(5	9)	Hawai
Camellia Bowl				Sa	t., Dec. 25
Georgia St.	4	1/2	(50	1/2)	Ball State
<b>Quick Lane Bow</b>	,			Mo	n., Dec. 27
Nevada	3	1/2	(5	9) W	/. Michigar
Military Bowl					
Boston College		3	(51	1/2)	E. Carolina
Birmingham Bo	wl			Tu	e., Dec. 28
Auburn		3	(51	1/2)	Houstor
<b>Guaranteed Rat</b>	e B	OW	ı		
Minnesota	31/2	(	45)	We	est Virginia
Fenway Bowl				We	d., Dec. 29
Virginia	2	(	71)		SMU
Pinstripe Bowl					
A disconsiderated	1	,	\	17:	uninia Taab

Guaranteed Rate Bowl							
Minnesota	31/2	(45)	West Virginia				
Fenway Bowl			Wed., Dec. 29				
Virginia	2	(71)	SMU				
<b>Pinstripe Bowl</b>							
Maryland	1	(55)	Virginia Tech				
Cheez-It Bowl							
Iowa St.	1	(451/2)	Clemson				
Alamo Bowl							
Oklahoma	41/2	(611/2)	Oregon				
Duke's Mayo Bo	lwo		Thur, Dec. 30				
North Carolina	81/2	(581/2)	S. Carolina				
<b>Music City Bow</b>	rl .						
Tennessee	41/2	(63)	Purdue				
Peach Bowl							
Michigan St.	2	(60)	Pittsburgh				
Las Vegas Bow	ı						

<b>Music City Boy</b>	/l			
Tennessee	41/2	(	63)	Purdue
Peach Bowl				
Michigan St.	2	(	60)	Pittsburgh
Las Vegas Bow	1			
Wisconsin		7	(42)	Arizona St.
<b>Gator Bowl</b>			Fri	day, Dec. 31
Arizona Bowl	F	rid	ay, De	c. 31
Boise State	7	1/2	(55)	C. Michigan
CFP Semifinal	Co	tte	on Boy	vl Classic
Alabama	1.	31/2	(58)	Cincinnati
CFP Semifinal			0	range Bowl
Georgia		8	(47)	Michigan
Outback Bowl				Sat., Jan. 1
Penn St.	21/2	(	47)	Arkansas
Fiesta Bowl				
Notre Dame	2	(4	15½) O	klahoma St.
Citrus Bowl				
Kentucky	21/2	(	44)	Iowa
Rose Bowl				
Ohio St.	61/2	(	66)	Utah

NFL WEEK 15	072	(00)	THURSDAY
FAVORITE	LI	NE O/	U UNDERDOG
Kansas City	3	(52)a	t LA Chargers SATURDAY
at Cleveland	3	(40)	Las Vegas
at Indianapolis	21/2	(451/2)	New England SUNDAY
at Buffalo	off	(off)	Carolina
Arizona	131/2	(471/2)	at Detroit
Dallas	101/2	(441/2)	at NY Giants
at Jacksonville			Houston
Tennessee	2	$(41\frac{1}{2})$	
at Philadelphia	off	(off)	Washington
at Miami	off	(off)	NY Jets
at San Francisc	081/2	(46)	Atlanta
at Denver	11/2	$(43\frac{1}{2})$	Cincinnati
at LA Rams			Seattle
Green Bay	41/2	$(43\frac{1}{2})$	at Baltimore

		MONDAY				
Minnesota	4	(44) at	Chicago			
NHL \	VEDN	IESDAY				
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDO	G Line			
Washington		at Chicago	+132			
New York	-216	at Arizona	+177			
at Anaheim	-157	Seattle	+132			
For the latest						
Sportsbook, h	ttps:/,	/sportsbool	k.			
fanduel.com/						

at Tampa Bay 10½ (46½) New Orleans

#### **COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

**MEN'S TOP 25 SCHEDULE** TUESDAY

No. 2Duke vs. SC State, late No. 6Alabama at Memphis, late No. 13Auburn vs. North Alabama, late No. 14Houston vs. Louisiana, late No. 17Texas vs. Ark.-Pine Bluff, late No. 18Tennessee 96, SC-Upstate 52 No. 19LSU 89, Northwestern St. 49 No. 25Texas Tech vs. Arkansas St., late

TUESDAY'S MEN'S SCORES

Lake Erie 79, Le Moyne 65 Monmouth (NJ) 69, Yale 60 Slippery Rock 76, Wheeling Jesuit 71 St. Francis (NY) 113, Medgar Evers 51 St. Francis (Pa.) 81, Hartford 66 Stony Brook 87, CCSU 67 Towson 74, UNC-Greensboro 64 West Chester 95, Seton Hill 82 SOUTH

Clemson 89, Miami (Ohio) 76 Emory & Henry 83, D'Youville 60 Kentucky Wesleyan 104, Health & Sciences Pharmacy 29 LSU 89, Northwestern St. 49 Louisiana Tech 84, LSU-Shreveport 70 Louisville 86, SE Louisiana 60 Montevallo 69, Delta St. 62 NC A&T 69, ETSU 67 North Carolina 74, Furman 61 South Carolina 110, Allen 51 South Florida 60, Austin Peay 51 Tennessee 96, SC-Upstate 52 Troy 66, Alabama A&M 57 Virginia Union 79, Livingstone 64 Wake Forest 77, VMI 70 W. Alabama 82, Palm Beach Atlantic 44

MIDWEST McKendree 80, Union (Tenn.) 67 SW Baptist 97, Williams Baptist 72 SOUTHWEST NW Oklahoma 89, Panhandle St. 78

**USA TODAY WOMEN'S TOP 25** (Record through Monday)
Rk. School 1. South Carolina (32) 10-0 800 10-0 800 1 10-1 763 3 6-2 718 4 8-1 697 5 9-1 638 6 6-2 617 2 8-2 580 8 9-0 574 10 9-3 550 7 10-1 492 11 10-1 416 16 8-1 331 17 5-2 323 13 6-3 231 19 10-1 763 6-2 718 2. North Carolina State 3. Stanford 4. Louisville 5. Baylor 6. Connecticut 7. Indiana 8. Arizona 9. Tennessee 10. Maryland 10-1 492 7-1 445 11. Michigan 12. Texas 13. Iowa State 10-1 416 14. Georgia 16. South Florida 17. Texas A&M 18. Notre Dame 9-2 225 15 9-2 174 23 6-3 173 14 9-0 148 24

25. Duke 8-0 107 NR **TUESDAY'S WOMEN'S SCORES** 

8-2 132 NR

8-1 125 17

6-3 118 22 7-2 108 21

Drexel 59, Yale 52 Princeton 79, Buffalo 77, OT Rutgers 54, CCSU 45 UCF 68, Seton Hall 56 SOUTH FIU 68, Bethune-Cookman 57

Georgia St. 61. Florida A&M 52 Howard 74, UMBC 61 Liberty 76, Bluefield St. 30 South Alabama 91. Faulkner 51 MIDWEST DePaul 100, Nicholls 72

Indiana St. 76. III. Chicago 50 Tex. Rio Gr. Valley 52, Texas A&M-CC 43 UMKC 69, Santa Clara 62

**WTA OPEN BLS DE LIMOGES** 

19. Kentucky

23. Oregon 24. Ohio State

20. North Carolina

22. Brigham Young

21. Georgia Tech

Tuesday at Palais des Sports de Beau-blanc, Limoges, France, outdoors-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32 #4Greet Minnen d. Andreea Amalia Rosca, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1. #5Varvara Gracheva d. #7Kristina Mladenovic d. Marine Partaud, 7-5, 4-6, 6-0. Stefanie Voegele d. Viktoriya Tomova, 6-3, 6-4. Polona Hercog d.

Nina Stojanovic d. Daniela Vismane, 6-2, 6-0.

Robin Montgomery, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

NCAA FCS SEMIFINALS Friday: North Dakota St. (12-1) vs. James Madison (12-1), 9:15 p.m. Saturday: Montana State (11-2) vs. South Dakota State (11-3), 2 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION II PLAYOFFS SATURDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP McKinney (Tex.) ISD Stadium Ferris St. (13-0) vs. Valdosta St. (12-1), 9 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFFS FRIDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP Mary Hardin-Baylor (14-0) vs. North Central (III.) (14-0), 7p.m.

**UPCOMING BOWL GAMES** Bahamas BowlNassau, Bahamas Toledo (7-5) vs. Mid. Tenn. (6-6), noon Cure Bowl, Orlando, Fla. N. Illinois (9-4) vs. C. Carolina (10-2), 6 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES Boca Raton Bowl, Boca Raton, Fla.
W. Ky (8-5) vs. Appal. St. (10-3), 11a.m.
Celebration Bowl, Atlanta
SC St. (6-5) vs. Jackson St. (11-1), noon New Mexico Bowl, Albuquerque Fresno St. (9-3) vs. UTEP (7-5), 2:15p.m. Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La. #12BYU (10-2) vs. UAB (8-4), 3:30p.m. **LendingTree Bowl, Mobile, Ala.** E. Michigan (7-5) vs. Liberty (7-5), 5:45 p.m. LA Bowl, Inglewood, Calif. Oregon St. (7-5) vs. Utah St. (10-3), 7:30 p.m. **New Orleans Bowl, New Orleans** #16 La-Laf. (12-2) vs. Marshall (7-5), 9:15 p.m.

Myrtle Beach Bowl, Conway, S.C. Old Dominion (6-6) vs. Tulsa (6-6), 2:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 21** Famous Idaho Potato, Boise, Idaho Kent St (7-6) vs. Wyoming (6-6), 3:30 p.m. Frisco Bowl, Frisco, Texas #24 UTSA (12-1) vs. S. Diego St. (11-2), 7p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22 Armed Forces Bowl, Fort Worth, Texas Missouri (6-6) vs. Army (8-3), 8p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 23 Frisco Football Classic, Frisco, Texas Miami (7-5) vs. N. Texas (6-6), 3:30p.m. Gasparilla Bowl, Tampa, Fla. UCF (8-4) vs. Florida (6-6), 7p.m.

Hawaii Bowl, Honolulu Memphis (6-6) vs. Hawaii (6-7), 8n.m. Camellia Bowl, Montgomery, Ala

FRIDAY, DEC. 24

MONDAY, DEC. 27 **Quick Lane Bowl** Nevada (8-4) vs. W. Mich. (7-5), 11a.m. Military Bowl, Annapolis, Md. Bos Coll. (6-6) vs. E. Carolina (7-5), 2:30 p.m.

Ball State (6-6) vs. Ga. St. (7-5), 2:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 28** Birmingham Bowl, Birmingham, Ala. #21 Houston (11-2) vs. Auburn (6-6), noon **SERVPRO First Responder Bowl. Dallas** Air Force (9-3) vs. Louisville (6-6), 3:15 p.m. Liberty Bowl, emphis, Tenn. Miss St. (7-5) vs. TX Tech (6-6), 6:45p.m. Holiday Bowl, San Diego UCLA (8-4) vs. NC State (9-3), 8p.m. Guaranteed Rate Bowl, Phoeni Minnesota (8-4) vs. W. Va (6-6), 10:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29 Fenway Bowl, Boston Virginia (6-6) vs. SMU (8-4), 11a.m. Pinstripe Bowl, New York City Va. Tech (6-6) vs. Maryland (6-6), 2:15 p.m. Cheez-It Bowl, Orlando, Fla. #19 Clemson (9-3) vs. Iowa St. (7-5), 5:45 p.m. Alamo Bowl, San Antonio #14 Okla. (10-2) vs. #15 Oregon (10-3), 9:15 a.m.



Rams receiver Van Jefferson, left, hauls in a go-ahead touchdown catch beating the Cardinals' Jalen Thompson, right, during the second half Monday in Glendale, Ariz. RICK SCUTERI/AP

## Rams go out and prove they're still contenders

Stafford, Donald make statement to Cardinals in key NFC West battle

**By David Brandt** Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — From the first play to the last, Aaron Donald and the Rams showed they're still a heavyweight in the NFC West.

The six-time All-Pro finished with three sacks — the first on the initial play from scrimmage and the last as time expired while Matthew Stafford threw for 287 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Rams past the Cardinals 30-23 on Monday night.

"That's what the best do. They play their best when the best is required," Rams coach Sean McVay said. "We talk about competitive greatness all the time and this guy is the epitome of competitive greatness. Really proud of Aaron. Not at all surprised."

The Cardinals (10-3) will have to wait at least one more week before clinching their first playoff spot since 2015. Kyler Murray threw two interceptions that led to Rams touchdowns.

Cooper Kupp and Odell Beckham Jr. both caught touchdowns for the Rams (9-4), who won their second straight, pulled within one game of the Cardinals in the division and look rejuvenated following a threegame losing streak in November.

Kupp had 13 catches for 123 yards, the eighth 100-yard game this season for the NFL's receiving leader.

The Cardinals had a chance to tie the game in the final seconds after recovering an onside kick. But a holding call wiped out Murray's long run on the first play of the drive and the Cardinals couldn't produce a last-second miracle. On the final play, Donald charged toward Murray and the quarterback fell to the turf instead of getting run over by the 280-pound defensive line-

"We had a game plan, we stuck to it and it was fun," Donald said.

Stafford — who had plenty of protection and time to throw most of the night — hit Van Jefferson on a high-arching pass for a 52-yard touchdown to push the Rams ahead 20-13 early in the third quarter. The veteran quarterback dissected a Cardinals defense

that had been among the best against the pass in the NFL this season.

A few plays later, Murray was picked off for the second time. Leonard Floyd tipped the ball into the air, caught it and then rumbled downfield to the Arizona 19. Seven plays later, Stafford hit a diving Kupp for a 4-vard touchdown and the Rams led 27-13.

James Conner sliced through the Rams' defense for an 8-yard touchdown early in the fourth quarter to cut the deficit to 27-20.

Murray finished with 383 yards passing as the Cardinals tried to catch up late.

#### Power rankings

The Associated Press Pro32 NFL Power Rankings, as voted by a 12-member panel, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Monday, total points based on 32 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 32nd-place vote, and previous ranking:

Rank, team	W	L	т	Pts	Ρv
1. Green Bay Packers (5)	10	3	0	375	2
2. Tampa Bay Bucs (6)	10	3	0	370	3
3. New England Patriots (1)	9	4	0	358	4
4. Kansas City Chiefs	9	4	0	346	5
5. Arizona Cardinals	10	3	0	344	1
6. Los Angeles Rams	9	4	0	325	10
7. Dallas Cowboys	9	4	0	307	8
8. Tennessee Titans	9	4	0	306	6
<ol><li>Los Angeles Chargers</li></ol>	8	5	0	279	12
10. Baltimore Ravens	8	5	0	274	6
11. Buffalo Bills	7	6	0	266	9
12. Indianapolis Colts	7	6	0	250	11
13. San Francisco 49ers	7	6	0	246	15
14. Cincinnati Bengals	7	6	0	225	13
15. Cleveland Browns	7	6	0	214	17
16. Pittsburgh Steelers	6	6	1	181	14
17. Denver Broncos	7	6	0	179	20
18. Washington	6	7	0	172	16
19. Minnesota Vikings	6	7	0	171	22
20. Miami Dolphins	6	7	0	170	19
21. Philadelphia Eagles	6	7	0	150	21
22. Atlanta Falcons	6	7	0	132	24
23. New Orleans Saints	6	7	0	125	23
24. Las Vegas Raiders	6	7	0	114	18
25. Seattle Seahawks	5	8	0	108	25
26. Carolina Panthers	5	8	0	83	26
27. Chicago Bears	4	9	0	74	27
28. New York Giants	4	9	0	72	27
29. New York Jets	3	10	_	43	29
30. Detroit Lions	1	11	1	29	30
31. Houston Texans	2	11	0	26	32
32. Jacksonville Jaguars	2	11	0	22	31

#### **BRIEFS**

## Autopsy: Adams suffered from CTE

News services

An autopsy revealed unusually severe brain disease in the frontal lobe of the former NFL player accused of fatally shooting six people in Rock Hill, S.C., before killing himself in April, authorities announced Tuesday.

The 20 years Phillip Adams spent playing football "definitively ... gave rise" to a diagnosis of stage 2 chronic traumatic encephalopathy, said Dr. Ann McKee, who examined his brain. Authorities have said that on April 7,

Phillip Adams killed Rock Hill physician Robert Lesslie; his wife, Barbara; two of their grandchildren, 9-year-old Adah Lesslie and 5-year-old Noah Lesslie; and two HVAC technicians working at the Lesslie home, James Lewis and Robert Shook. both 38. Police later found Adams with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. ■ Rams WR Odell Beckham Jr. was added to the COVID-19 reserve list as the NFL reported 28 more positive tests among players in the league's worst two-day outbreak since the pandemic started. There were 37 positive tests among players Monday, and the Chiefs placed one key player in the health and safety protocols each day (DT Chris Jones and WR Josh Gordon) with a crucial AFC West matchup against the Chargers looming Thursday. Beckham was among nine Rams players to go on the COVID-19 list Tuesday, pushing that club's total to 13, while the Browns are now dealing with its second major outbreak of the season. WR Jarvis

Landry was among eight Browns players

added to the list, putting their total at 11. The

Browns play the Raiders at home Saturday.

The league's worst outbreak comes just as it

was distributing a memo, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, that set a deadline of Dec. 27 for coaches, front-office staff and team personnel to receive a booster shot in order to still be considered fully vaccinated. ... The Buccaneers placed RB Giovani Bernard on injured reserve. ... The woman who died in a fiery crash that authorities blame on ex-Raiders WR Henry Ruggs III driving drunk at racetrack speeds burned to death, the county coroner in Las Vegas said.

Autoracing: James Hinchcliffe, one of Indy-Car's most popular drivers, said Tuesday he is stepping away from full-time racing in the series. The 34-year-old Canadian said he is not retiring and will explore other types of racing. Andretti Autosport did not renew his contract for next year. Hinchcliffe had a rough season in his return to Andretti this past year and scored just one podium finish, third placeon the street course at Nashville.

Baseball: Justin Verlander's one-year, \$25 million with the Astros has been finalized, nearly a month after it was agreed to. They reached an agreement on Nov. 17 subject to a successful physical. While the deal was reported before the collective bargaining agreement expired Dec. 1 and a signing freeze began, MLB and the players' association did not approve it until this week. Verlander's agreement incudes a \$25 million player option for 2023 conditioned on him pitching 130 or more innings in 2022.

NHL: Wild general manager Bill Guerin was promoted to take over the men's U.S. Olympic hockey team, two months after Stan Bowman's resignation in the wake of the Blackhawks' sexual assault scandal.



#### **NIL**

from Page 1

Association. "Did anyone expect anything different?"

Hundreds if not thousands of athletes are taking advantage of the name, image and likeness era, signing mostly modest deals to lend their celebrity to an advertising campaign for any number of businesses across the country. Some have landed truly spectacular deals worth far more.

The guidance put in place by the NCAA, schools and state laws are clear about one thing: A NIL deal cannot pay a player directly to attend or play for a school, though most schools were quick to provide NIL guidance, support and connections to interested businesses.

The twist now is that donors who want the best players at their alma maters are getting involved, making bold promises in a clear bid to attract attention from recruits weighing their options.

More than a dozen "collectives" have sprung up around major college programs like Ohio State, Penn State. Washington, Tennessee and others to connect athletes with marketing opportunities.

At Texas, two new initiatives launched with the promise of big money just two weeks before signing

Clark Field Collective, which is officially unaffiliated with the school, claims it already has \$10 million pledged to support NIL deals for Longhorns athletes. Days later, a new nonprofit called Horns With

Heart said it would pay \$50,000 annually to Longhorns offensive linemen for work supporting community charities.

The Clark Field group said its board of directors includes former NBA star T.J. Ford and former NFL player Kenny Vaccaro, two Texas alumni.

"The University of Texas at Austin maintains the largest, wealthiest alumni donor base in the entire country," Clark Field Collective CEO Nick Shuley said. "It's time a network like this existed to support our college

Horns With Heart is a new kind of player in the athlete compensation field and it drew almost immediate outrage from rival fan bases amid larger questions about NIL's role as a recruiting enticement.



**COLLEGE FOOTBALL SIGNING DAY** 

## Texas A&M joins Alabama, Georgia in race for recruiting title

Associated Press

Alabama and Georgia are competing for the honor of having the nation's top-ranked recruiting class at the same time they are preparing for their respective College Football Playoff semifinals.

But there's a third Southeastern Conference program that is assembling an equally impressive recruiting class without ever having earned a playoff berth.

Texas A&M has joined its SEC rivals atop the team recruiting rankings heading into Wednesday, the first day that high school senior prospects can finalize their college plans. The race is close enough that the unofficial team recruiting champion might not be determined until the later signing date on Feb. 2.

"Alabama's finished No. 1 nine of the last 11 years," said Steve Wiltfong, the national recruiting director for 247Sports. "Texas A&M has really come on here. Georgia's got a great class. Those three are kind of duking it out."

Alabama is currently first, Georgia second and Texas A&M third according to composite rankings of recruiting sites compiled by 247Sports.

Texas A&M has verbal commitments from four of the nation's top 19 prospects according to the 247Sports Composite. That list included defensive lineman Walter Nolen (2nd), wide receiver Evan Stewart (6th), defensive lineman Gabriel Brownlow-Dindy (16th) and quarterback Conner Weigman (19th). The Aggies are still contending for other top-20

recruits as well. Although Texas A&M owns a somewhat disappointing 8-4 record this season and hasn't won a national title since 1939, the Aggies have made progress under Jimbo Fisher. The Aggies are 34-14 in Fisher's four seasons, including a 9-1 mark and Orange Bowl win last season.

Texas A&M could face some challenges maintaining its recruiting momentum after losing defensive coordinator Mike Elko, who is taking over as Duke's head coach. But in a season that's been noteworthy for all its coaching upheaval, Texas A&M may be benefiting from its relative stability.

Fisher is the longest-tenured head coach of any Power Five school in the state of Texas.

"It's just one of those programs that everybody feels is right on the verge of making something really big happen, and a lot of kids are attracted to that," said Adam Gorney, national recruiting director for Rivals. "Alabama's going to get theirs. Georgia's going to get theirs. But now Texas A&M is sort of right in that upper echelon of being able to recruit at that level."

Impact of coaching changes: The 28 head coaching changes in the Football Bowl Subdivision rankings have impacted plenty of recruiting classes over the last couple of weeks.

Oklahoma and Oregon were hit particularly hard.

Since Lincoln Riley left Oklahoma for Southern California, the Sooners' 2022 class has lost three top-150 prospects in Brownlow-Dindy, defensive lineman Derrick Moore (79th) and running back Raleek Brown (33rd).

Oklahoma did get some good news early this week by landing a verbal commitment from quarterback Nick Evers (156th) and getting back linebacker Kobie McKinzie (144th). McKinzie had flipped his verbal commitment from Oklahoma to Texas after Riley's departure, but he flipped back to Oklahoma

Oregon lost several commitments after Miami hired away Mario Cristobal. The list includes offensive tackle Kelvin Banks, who is ranked 15th overall and is now committed to Texas.

More flipping?: Gorney believes the uncertainty stemming from so many coaching changes could cause more verbally committed players than usual to change their minds and sign elsewhere. He noted the difference between this recruiting cycle and the last one, when pandemic-related restrictions prevented prospects from traveling to prospective schools for an extended period.

"It felt like last recruiting cycle, kids just wanted a spot and wanted it locked in," Gorney said.

Not this year. Now that prospects are taking more visits and teams are making more coaching changes, recruits might not be as likely to stick to their verbal commitments.

Missing assistants: It's not just the head coaching changes that can impact prospects' decisions.

Clemson's staff has been a model of consistency for much of Dabo Swinney's head coaching tenure, but offensive coordina-tor Tony Elliott left to take over Virginia's program and defensive coordinator Brent Venables became Oklahoma's head coach over the last several days.

Swinney now faces the challenge of keeping as much of Clemson's class together as possible this week. Three top-100 defensive recruits from IMG Academy (cornerback Daylen Everette, edge rusher Jihaad Campbell and safety Keon Sabb) all withdrew verbal commitments to Clemson and re-opened their recruitments after Venables' departure.

SEC still in control: SEC teams once again are dominating on the recruiting

While the 247Sports Composite team recruiting rankings should fluctuate quite a bit over the course of the week, SEC schools had eight of the top 18 classes as of Tuesday morning.

Four of the nation's top eight recruits are committed to SEC schools: Nolen, wide receiver Luther Burden (Missouri), Stewart and edge rusher Jeremiah Alexander (Alabama). The only other verbally committed recruits in the top eight are cornerback Travis Hunter (Florida State) and defensive lineman Travis Shaw (North Carolina).



 $The \ University \ of \ Hartford \ hosted \ St. \ Francis \ University \ on \ Tuesday \ in \ the \ first \ Jack \ Phelan \ Class \ to \ honor \ the \ former \ Hawks$ coach and Farmington High athletic director. A ceremony was held before the game to honor Phelan, participating were, from left, St. Francis coach Rob Krimmel, Jack Phelan's childfren, Jack Jr. and Patrick, his wife, Patti, son Ken and current Hartford Coach John Gallagher. STEVE MCLAUGHLIN PHOTOGRAPHY/HANDOUT

#### **UHart**

from Page 1

Hartford. My kids grew up under the backboards here as ballboys and we have nothing but good memories of here as well so it's really a nice night to bring us all back together."

The game will take place

at St. Francis next season. "Obviously, Jack Phelan is Hartford basketball," Gallagher said. "To be able to honor him and his family in a first-class way which both programs did, is the way it should be. More games across America should be played like this to honor people that made

this game so great and made our jobs possible.

"This is what I call a game of gratitude. It's bigger than the scoreboard. It's a game for us to give thanks to him personally."

Phelan reached out to Gallagher when he started coaching at Hartford and encouraged him with texts and phone calls.

Phelan grew up in Hartford. In eighth grade, Phelan's basketball team at the now-defunct St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford won the New England championship and his Northwest Catholic basketball team won the Class M title his senior year, beating Kolbe Cathedral, 72-67. He graduated from Northwest Catholic in 1972.

He played a year at St. Thomas More before he went on to play at St. Francis. In 1977, his senior year, he scored an arena-record 42 points (which still stands) in a win over Duquesne, which featured Norm Nixon, who would go on to play for the Lakers and win two NBA titles. He was drafted by the Golden State Warriors in the sixth round of the NBA draft but didn't make the team. He was also drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers even though he had only played football for a year in high

school. Phelan was inducted into St. Francis' Hall of Fame in

"We were happy to come and celebrate the life of Jack Phelan and what he meant to both St. Francis and Hartford, with the basketball and coaching success he had, the impact he had on so many people here in the Hartford community," Krimmel said. "He did a lot of great things at St. Francis. he was a Hall of Famer and when he left Loreto [Pa.], he led a Hall of Fame life and he was certainly a great role model for our guys to follow."

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

#### **Bueckers**

from Page 1

from the date of her injury, which would've been mid to late January. That was before Bueckers' decided to opt for surgery.

'Typically, surgical intervention in a tibial plateau fracture is to reduce an offset in the articular cartilage - in other words, to make it smoother once again," Dr. Michael Miranda, chief of orthopedic trauma at Hartford Hospital, told The Courant. "The other reason would be to increase stability. There may have been some displacement, which they felt required surgical intervention.

"That's one of the main reasons to go in there," Auriemma told Bob Joyce on the UConn coaches show, "You want to go in and know exactly what it is that's going on, and then that way there's no guesswork involved and you can take care of whatever has to be taken care of right then and there." Auriemma added the doctor was

pleased with how the operation went. UConn's first announcement regarding Bueckers' injury did not

mention the meniscus tear, but Jeff

Stotts — an injury analyst and certi-

fied athletic trainer with an extensive background covering sports injuries - said it is a common occurrence with tibial plateau fractures because that's where the meniscus sits.

Miranda says the meniscus injury and the surgical intervention for it depending on the location of the tear, it can be treated with a repair or partial removal - shouldn't be additional cause for concern.

"Anterolateral meniscus tears heal quickly and allow for early return to activity, so it shouldn't prolong [her recovery]," he said. "It should alter things minimally."

The Huskies are 1-1 without Bueckers, losing to then-unranked Georgia Tech and beating UCLA. It will help once UConn is able to bring back injured backup point guard Nika Mühl and shooting guard Azzi Fudd, which seems most likely to happen after the holidays. Junior Aubrey Griffin also appears closer to making her season debut sometime soon.

Prior to her injury, Bueckers led UConn in scoring (21.2 points per game), minutes (36.3), assists (6.2) and steals (2.7) and was second in rebounding (5.5). Between her scoring and assists, she was responsible for over 50 percent of UConn's field goals this season.

Both Miranda and Stotts said that an eight-week recovery window for Bueckers sounds realistic, though Stotts added it wouldn't be shocking

for it to take a little longer. Auriemma told Joyce that Bueck-

ers' recovery starts "today." 'Mostly it's range of motion things in the beginning... and trying to build strength in the muscles surrounding the knee." Auriemma said on Bueckers' rehab. "Staying off of it, crutches for a while, and little by little adding what they feel she can tolerate at a predetermined timetable."

Since Bueckers was initially injured, Auriemma has made it clear that they won't rush her back.

"We've had players get injured in the past and my philosophy here is, I'm not interested in how fast we can get someone back, I'm interested in what's best for them long term," Auriemma said in a statement. "Every decision made will prioritize what's best for Paige and her career. Everyone involved with this program will be there to support Paige through her healing process.'

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

RisCassi & Davis

injured for more than 60 years

Protecting the rights of the



Safety Tip of the Day

If you find yourself with car trouble on the side of the road, don't sit in your car if you don't have to and NEVER stand behind it. Get off the highway completely - even if that means carefully climbing over a guard rail to do so.

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## — NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

#### **SHORTS**

#### Simpson's parole ends in Nevada



O.J. Simpson is a free man. The 74-yearold former football hero and actor. acquitted California murder defendant and convicted Las Vegas armed robber was granted good behavior credits and discharged from parole effective Dec. 1. Nevada State Police spokeswoman Kim Yoko Smith said Tuesday. "Mr. Simpson is a completely free man now," said Malcolm LaVergne,

Simpson's lawyer in Las Vegas. Simpson declined an immediate interview, LaVergne said, and the attorney declined to talk about Simpson's future plans, including whether he intends to remain in Nevada. "Life is fine," he told AP during a June 2019 interview. He grew up in public housing in San Francisco, attended USC and won the Heisman Trophy in 1968. He became a Pro Football Hall of Famer and the first running back to gain 2,000 yards in a season with the Bills in 1973. He acted in movies and served as a rent-a-car company pitchman and a football commentator. In what became known as "The Trial of the Century," he was acquitted in 1995 of the double slayings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman.

#### Maravich's jacket fetches big bucks



Basketball great "Pistol" Pete Maravich's college letterman jacket sold for nearly \$117,000 at an auction over the weekend, more than 50 years after his record-setting career at LSU. The auction of various Maravich memorabilia, conducted by Grey Flannel Auctions of Scottsdale, Arizona, netted

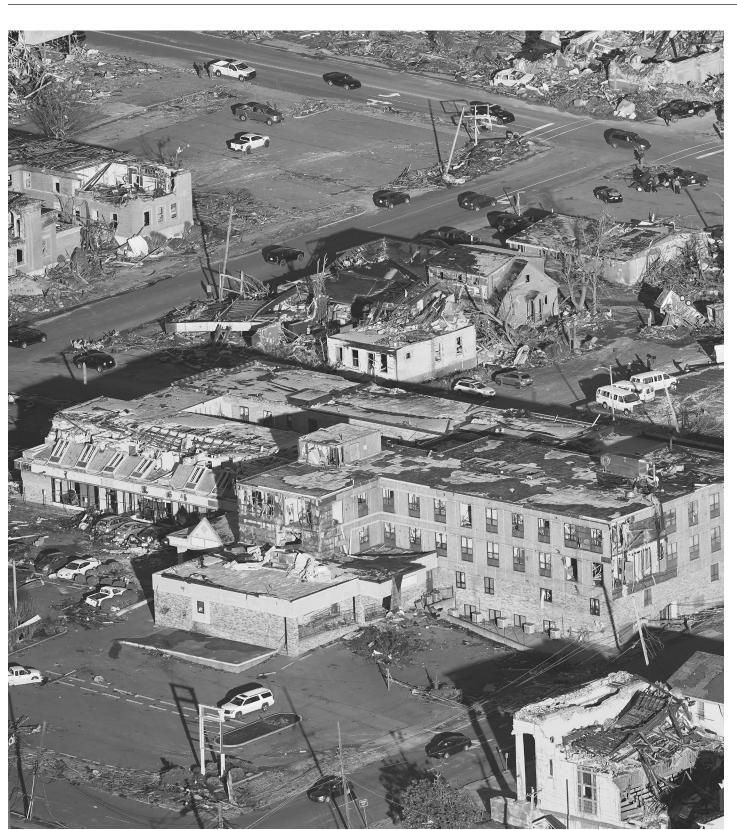
over \$160,000, including the earnings from the jacket, according to The Advocate. The purple jacket, trimmed with gold and featuring a gold "L" on the left breast, was worn by Marauch during his three seasons as a Tiger. It went for \$116,924. The rest of the auction items included his 1978 NBA All-Star game jersey, All-American plaques from all three seasons at LSU, and the jacket he wore in 1987 for his induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. According to The Advocate, the items were all obtained directly from the Maravich family. Maravich died in 1988 from heart failure at the age of 40. The Pennsylvania native remains the all-time leading scorer in Division I men's college basketball history with 3,667 points in three seasons at LSU from 1967-70.

#### Stars' Bishop says farewell to NHL



Ben Bishop's 2 1/2-year saga with an ailing right knee is ending with the Stars goalie believing he did everything possible to get his career going again. He is still not quite at peace with the fact that he couldn't. Bishop confirmed Tuesday what Stars general manager Jim Nill said three days earlier: The 35-year-old's play-

ing days are done because of a degenerative issue in the knee. "I guess one of the hard things is, I get out there and I still feel pretty good in some of the practices and you still feel like you have the skill to play," said Bishop, whose last NHL game was in the 2020 playoff bubble in Canada 15 months ago. "But then when your knee tells you you can't, it's tough." It's not officially a retirement because Bishop is. under contract through next season and will still be around the team. But the three-time Vezina Trophy finalist won't be in net again after last week's one-game rehab attempt with the AHL's Texas Stars yielded eight goals and even worse news afterward. The knee was swollen again. Bishop said the first sign of trouble with the knee came during a seven-game loss to the Blues in the second round of the 2019 playoffs.



In this aerial photo, destruction from last weekend's tornado is seen in downtown Mayfield, Ky. on Sunday. The storm caused severe damage to the hometown of MLB umpire Tripp Gibson, who has worked full-time in the majors since 2015. GERALD HERBERT/AP

## Umpire's hometown devastated

#### December tornado hits hard in Kentucky city where Gibson grew up

By Ben Walker Associated Press

Tripp Gibson was on the treadmill at his house near Seattle, a solid workout before heading to a holiday party with his wife.

To pass the time Friday afternoon, the Major League Baseball umpire was chatting on the phone with dad, just catching up on things back in his hometown.

His hometown of Mayfield, Kentucky. Suddenly, as his father spoke, Gibson heard a tornado warning siren go off in the background. It was a familiar sound from his childhood days — as a kid, he once saw a small twister skip over his yard.

"It's probably nothing, right?" father and

son figured. Three hours later, Gibson got an urgent message from his sister: Tornado's hitting,

Dad's taking cover in the bathroom. Fortunately for Gibson, no one in his immediate family was hurt in the storms that devastated the city of about 10,000 in the southwest corner of the state and surround-

By Saturday, after a flight from Seattle to Atlanta to Nashville and a two-hour drive, Gibson was back in the town where he spent most of his life.

"It's indescribable," he told The Associated Press on Monday from Mayfield. "You think of the movie 'Twister' and that's nothing compared to what we have here."

'All the people injured, displaced, maybe dead," he said. "There are no words."

At least eight people working at a Mayfield candle factory were killed, and not every local resident has been accounted for yet. Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said Monday that at least 74 had died statewide.

Figuring out where things were in Mayfield is nearly impossible, the 40-yearold Gibson said. "I'm coming down roads that I've driven

thousands of times and there's nothing there," he said. "You don't even know where "Places that you landmarked as a kid,

they're gone. There are no road signs. I don't even know where 6th Street and 7th Street and 8th Street are anymore," he said.

At one point, his late grandfather owned almost all of the land around Courthouse

"I spent one summer painting every building there by myself, up on three levels of scaffolding. I knew every inch of downtown," he said. "Now, it's hard to see." As a boy, Gibson remembered Bruce Willis

coming to town to shoot "In Country," a 1989 movie based on a novel by Mayfield native Bobbie Ann Mason. Willis enjoyed spending time with

Gibson's father, Hoot, and some scenes were filmed on family property — Willis and his then-pregnant wife, Demi Moore, took a picture with young Tripp.

Gibson's father and stepmother, Marietta, live about two-tenths of a mile from downtown Mayfield. They sheltered at a friend's house nearby when the tornado hit.

The family owns 100 homes in the Mayfield area, a business his grandfather, a U.S. Navy veteran, started in 1949 to partly help returning service members. Gibson said he and his dad visited about 25 of the houses

"There are so many stories of survival," Gibson said.

Gibson went to Graves County High School and graduated from Murray State before becoming a professional umpire in

He worked his first MLB game in 2013, joined the full-time staff in 2015 and was on the crew for this year's National League Championship Series between the Braves and the Dodgers.

Many current MLB umpires have Kentucky roots, including Sam Holbrook, Greg Gibson, Larry Vanover, Jerry Layne and Paul Nauert.

Umps Care Charities, formed by MLB umpires, has set up a fund to help those affected in the area. Several other organizations are aiding in the efforts, and monetary donations for the Mayfield Graves County Tornado Relief Fund are being collected by Independence Bank in Fancy Farm, Kentucky.

After Tripp Gibson landed in Nashville, he met up with fellow umpire D.J. Reyburn for the drive to Mayfield, stopping along the way at a Lowe's to pick up supplies.

"I'm just here to help," Gibson said. "We've got our hands full.'

Gibson said he planned to stay in Mayfield for a week, then return after

"I get to go back to Washington, to my wife and two boys, I'm lucky," he said. "The people here in Mayfield, that's who I'm thinking about."

The shock of what he saw will stay with

"I was concerned I could have an emotional-type breakdown. I don't think I've been able to fully emotionally process it," he said. "I don't have time for it now."

# Booster Day looms, virus rattles league

By Pat Graham Associated Press

DENVER - There's no game in Chicago on Tuesday, no trip for the Bulls

to Toronto for another on Thursday.

Just like that, the coronavirus has disrupted the day-to-day operations of

The Bulls are shut down for what will be at least a few days with 10 players in health and safety protocols. But the impact is not limited to Chicago.

Pacers coach Rick Carlisle is missing some games, the Nets were without seven players, including James Harden, for their home game Tuesday night against the Raptors because of the protocols and Raptors President Masai Ujiri tested positive after hosting an event that NBA Commissioner Adam Silver and Deputy Commissioner Mark Tatum attended and have needed to undergo daily testing since.

Bucks superstar forward Giannis Antetokounmpo was declared out for Wednesday's game against the Pacers after being placed into the NBA's health and safety pon Tuesday night.

This all underscores what NBA officials have been saying for weeks: The pandemic is still very much a problem and that's why Friday is such a priority. Friday is Booster Day, when the league's most important percentage won't be of the 3-point variety.

The current data from the NBA indicates more than 60% of players have gotten their booster shots. Under the new guidelines, that potentially means somewhere around 150 players would now be subject to daily testing again.

The NBA and the National Basketball Players Association have been urging players and staff to get their coronavirus booster shot for the past several weeks. On Friday, the latest league guidelines will be implemented.

Lately, there have been plenty of stark reminders this pandemic is far from over and won't be going away anytime soon. In addition to depleted rosters for the Bulls and Nets, along with Carlisle remaining sidelined due to health and safety protocols, the Pacers and Raptors recently had to scrap some practices, just in case, and other teams have undergone additional testing to ensure that they're safe.

The Pacers and Warriors had only two officials for Monday night's game, with the third in health and safety protocols. The Raptors announced their broadcast team will self-isolate out of precaution after contact with someone who tested positive.

Pacers assistant coach Lloyd Pierce succinctly summed up the current state of the pandemic while filling in for Carlisle last Friday when he said it is "always joyful when you just get to the court. ... With the state of COVID, there's always something going on."

The NHL already postponed some games this season and on Monday, with the announcement that two Bulls games were off, the NBA joined hockey in the postponed club. The league always anticipated that postponements were possible again this season. About 30 games were moved around last season but all eventually got played.

One provision of the new league booster guidelines states that a team staffer who doesn't have their booster shot by Friday · with limited exceptions — will no longer have the ability to have in-person access with players, coaches and referees.

As for the players who haven't received their booster, they will be subject to game-day testing again, and the league will reserve the right to impose additional testing on their respective teams as needed going forward.

Ujiri announced he was among those who tested positive for the virus after he recently went to his charity event. In a statement from the team, Ujiri said: "We don't want to live in fear of this virus, but COVID is a persistent enemy. Together, we'll defeat it."

AP's Tim Reynolds and Andrew Seligman contributed to this report.

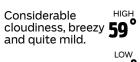
#### WEATHER



cloudiness, a shower is possible late. East wind becoming south



SUNRISE NOON and quite mild.



**THURSDAY** 

കക ക്



cloudiness.

**SATURDAY**  $\triangle$   $\langle \hat{q}_i \rangle \langle \hat{q}_i \rangle$ Cloudy with

periods of rain.

Some rain and

at night.

LOW

SUNSET snow is possible

SUNRISE NOON HIGH Early clouds, possibly lingering snow or rain, becoming LOW partly sunny. 29

**SUNDAY** 

HIGH **38** LOW 20



-Garv Lessor

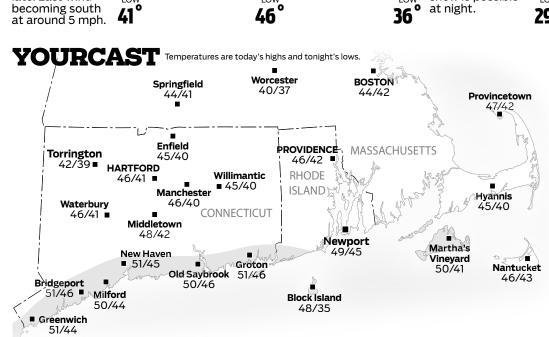
Low

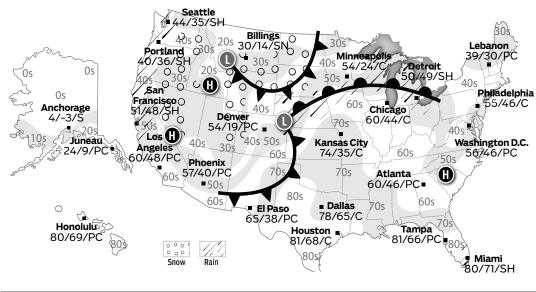
6:41 a.m. 12:31 a.m. 49 6:57 p.m. 1:26 p.m.

7:52 a.m. 1:24 a.m.

8:08 p.m. 2:19 p.m.

10:35 a.m. 5:10 a.m.





#### **OUTLOOK**

Walter Scott, a Scottish historical novelist, poet, playwright, and historian wrote, "dark December glooms the day, and takes our autumn joys away." Certainly, that is true for most Decembers, but this year has been different. First, summer strolled into autumn and now autumn is strolling into winter with snowfall at just 37 percent of normal, along with mild temperatures. There are a few chances for snow in the coming week, but they are just chances, seemingly nothing substantial. This mild trend seems fine, but will we change our tune if winter strolls into spring?

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.0

**Tides** 

N.L. State Pier

Saybrook Jetty

Connecticut River

**Heating Degree Days** 

For July 1 - Dec 14

HIGHS

Atmosphere

Barometer

Dew point

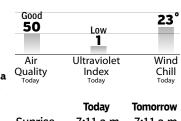
30-day Temperature History

#### ALMANAC

<b>Precipitation In Inches</b>	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00	0.14
Month to date	1.06	1.95
Total this year	53.05	44.92
Snowfall In Inches		
Voctorday (by 1 n m)	0.0	υs

Total this year 2.1 5.7 Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

#### **Air Quality Forecast For Today**



	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:11 a.m.	7:11 a.m.
Sunset	4:21 p.m.	4:21 p.m.
Moonrise	2:16 p.m.	2:44 p.m.
Moonset	3:47 a.m.	4:48 a.m.

Moon Phase			
ull	Last	New	First
ec 18	Dec 26	Jan 2	Jan 9

Stockholm

Sydney

Tel Aviv

Toronto

Warsaw

Vancouver

Tokvo

63 46 C

54 48 C

39 32 PC

34 32 PC

84 68 SH

75 48 PC

50 43 SH

43 36 C

55 39

52 37 R

61 34

Kingston

Lisbon

London

Madrid

Milan

Montreal

Moscow

New Delhi

Rio de Janeiro 84 72

Nassau

Prague

Seoul

Singapore

Mexico City

42 35 SH

82 66 SH

67 49 PC

55 39 S

39 34 C

37 36 SH

Weather page produced by

CONNECTICUT

Weather Center

WESTERN

UNIVERSITY

at Portland 10:51 p.m. 6:05 p.m. Madison 8:04 a.m. 1:43 a.m. 8:32 p.m. 2:26 p.m. New Haven 8:24 a.m. 2:07 a.m. 8:52 p.m. 2:50 p.m. Stamford 8:28 a.m. 2:21 a.m. 8:56 p.m. 3:04 p.m. River Stage at Hartford: 7.27 feet at 6:30 p.m. L.I. Sound W L.I. Sound E Boating B. I. Sound VCloudy Weather VCloudy VCloudy

High

30-day Precipitation History In Inches

Wind	E/SE, 5-10	E/SE, 5-15	E/SE, 5-15
Seas	1 ft.	1-2 ft.	2-3 ft.
Temperat		High	Low

Tuesday	54 at 2:03 p.m	34 at 3:10 a.m
Normal for date	41	25
Record for date	60 in 1920	-2 in 2005
A year ago	37	29
Range this year	99	1
		Last

High

31° at 9 a.m.

Season

Normal

30.59 at 7 p.m. 30.17 at 12 a.m.

13° at 5 p.m.

Season

#### AROUND THE WORLD Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

New Orleans

Nashville

Okla. City

Omaha

Orlando

Raleigh

Pittsburgh

29 6 C

50 45 C

67 48 PC

57 49 C

59 53 C

NEW ENG	LAND	5 W
Bangor	32 29 PC	Baltimore
Burlington	42 37 PC	Bismarck
Caribou	26 19 PC	Boise
Concord	41 34 PC	Buffalo
Montpelier	39 31 PC	Charleston
Mt. Wash.	24 21 PC	Cincinnati
Portland	39 35 PC	Cleveland
Woods Hole	44 43 PC	Indianapolis
		Jacksonville
NATION		Las Vegas
Albany	44 39 PC	Miami Beach

RESULTS

(N.Y.) 19

ЕН

**GIRLS BASKETBALL** 

**EAST HAMPTON 71, FISHERS ISLAND** 

EAST HAMPTON (1-0): Amber Murphy 4-0-8, Olivia DeMartino 5-0-11, Liana

Jackie Russell 7-0-15, Jordan Murphy

2-0-4, Katie Ireland 3-0-8, Ally Jacob

Salamone 6-3-15, Delanev Russell 2-0-4,

sen 1-0-2, Liz MacDonald 1-0-2, Gabby Wiesner 1-0-2. Totals 32-3-71. FISHERS ISLAND (N.Y.) (0-1): Constance

Toldo 1-3-5. Madeleine Hatfield 2-0-4,

Ellie Bloethe 1-4-6, Maddie Lusker 2-0-4, Lily Esposito 0-0-0, Micaiah Rith-

**CIVIC LEADERSHIP 58, HMTCA 19** 

ley 7-1-16, Jacky Beaupre 3-1-7, Faith

Ramos 0-0-0, Gio Shaw 5-0-12, Shani-

D-1-1, Mallory Thorpe 0-0-0. Totals

HMTCA (0-1): Nyasia Pitts 5-1-13, Elle Dichristina 1-0-2, Jazlyn Vega 0-1-1, Deysha Rivera 0-0-0, Michelle Sharp

1-1-3, Priscilla Rosado 0-0-0, Arianna

Espinosa 0-0-0. Totals 7-3-19.

RHAM 51, ROCKVILLE 28 RHAM (1-0): Marina Torunchuck 1-0-2.

**BOYS HOCKEY** 

Zach Pettit

LYMAN HALL 8, NORTH HAVEN 1

Goals: LH-Jack Roberts (3), Jimbo

**TUESDAY'S HIGH** 

GIRLS BASKETBALL

**NEWINGTON 55, WINDSOR 34** 

**SCHOOL RESULTS** 

WINDSOR (0-1): Amaiya Stevens 1-2-4,

NEWINGTON (1-0): Bela Cucuta 7-0-20,

2-0-6, Adriana Romano 1-0-2. Ella Stair

0-1-1, Marlie Zocco 2-2-6, Karissa Zocco 1-0-3. Totals 19-6-55.

Note: Miller had 9rebounds, Romano

had 5assists and Ferguson had 6

Schaub 1-0-2, Trinity Cruz 3-1-9,

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 61, BLOOMFIELD 27

rebounds, 4assists for Newington.

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC (1-0): Lily Pare

1-0-2, Abby Hubert 2-0-4, Maeve Rushin 2-0-4, Morgan Murphy 5-0-12, Susanna

Brianna Lebrun 9-1-19, Brooke Popella 4-1-9. Totals 27-3-61.

Dejahlee Dogans 2-3-7, Brielle Williams

BLOOMFIELD (0-1): Nyasia Dogans 0-3-3, Marcelle James 2-0-4, Taylor Jackson 2-3-7, Tanae Spears 1-1-3,

NWC

11 12 6 5 - 34 13 13 3 26 - 55

18 20 15 8 - 61 7 10 3 7 - 27

Janet Woodard 2-2-7. Avanna Franks

8-1-18, Kennedy Carter 1-3-5. Totals

Lilly Ferguson 6-3-17, Kendall Miller

Cohrs (2), Kenny Mackenzie, Dylan Gay,

NH—Brian Jooss Jr.. Rec.: NH—0-1.

0-0-0, Annika Jones 0-0-0, Mariah Albert

Maddy Evans 7-4-24, Sarah West 4-2-10, Ailish Kleinhen 0-2-2, Kathy Chapman

Bryzgel 0-1-1, Ady Brown 2-0-4. Totals

Makayla Major 1-0-3, Julia Szuminski 1-0-3, Anaya Tolton 2-4-8, Caitlin Chat-

terton 1-3-5, Jenny Gorski 3-2-8. Totals

2-2-6. Grace Whitmore 1-0-2. Tarvn

ROCKVILLE (0-1): Lavla Tate 2-0-4.

gua Thomas 9-3-22, Tatyanna Noguerra

23 20 16 12 - 71 3 3 3 10 - 19

12 17 11 18 - 58 2 6 3 8 - 19

9 18 12 12 - 51 13 5 4 6 - 28

erford 0-0-0. Totals 6-7-19.

St. Louis 75 48 Salt Lake City 34 28 C 51 35 PC 79 74 SH San Antonio 81 68 C 61 48 PC 58 39 C San Diego Milwaukee Albuquerque 49 26 SH KEY: S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms Atlantic City 56 46 PC FARMINGTON 50, LEWIS MILLS 28 **MONDAY'S LATE** LEWIS MILLS (0-1): Riley Mills 1-0-2, **HIGH SCHOOL** Taytum Fitzgerald 0-1-1, Abriana Wroblewski 1-3-5, Kiana Bolleyer

> 0-1-1. Cassie Martinoitti 1-0-2. Totals 9-10-28.
> FARMINGTON (1-0): Daria Fournier 7-2-17. Jeannie Pham 0-2-2. Mackenzie Campbell 0-2-2, Emily Sanchez 2-1-5 Brooke Jones 1-1-3, Reshhma Palanivel 1-0-2, Emma Serkosky 1-0-2, Anna Loughman 5-0-11, Stella Daniel 1-0-2, Avery Anderson 2-0-4. Totals 20-8-50.

1-1-3, Lillian Martineau 3-0-6, Makavla Issakhani 0-2-2, Abby Jankoski 2-0-4,

2 8 4 14 - 28 7 14 16 13 - 50

WETHERSFIELD 52, MANCHESTER 50 WETHERSFIELD (1-0): Vanessa Venditti 3-1-9 Olivia Barnett 3-0-6 Bella Alison Wagner 3-1-7, Ella Alger 2-0-6 Mackenzie Mori 6-1-15. Totals 21-2-52. MANCHESTER (0-1): Madison Boilard 2-0-5, Kyla Haataja 3-0-6, Mia Gilbert 2-0-5, Tiara Tyson 9-7-25, Elise Ryan 2-4-9. Totals 18-11-50.

18 7 17 10 - 52 11 19 11 9 - 50

**ROCKY HILL 39. BRISTOL CENTRAL 35** BRISTOL CENTRAL (0-1): leilani Mills-Jackson 4-0-9. Ella Watson 2-0-4. Brooke Watson 1-0-2, Ariana Rivera 2-2-6, Lillian Sirois 4-2-10, Callie Lodovico 2-0-4. Totals 15-4-35. ROCKY HILL (1-0): Abigail Boutin 2-0-4, Lily Margiotta 1-0-2, Alyssa Gau 1-1-3, Kate Oostendorp 6-2-15, Maleena Muzio 1-0-2, Angelina Daley 2-2-6, Christina DeNovellis 3-1-7, Faith Beliveau 0-0-0. Totals 16-6-39.

10 8 7 10 - 35 15 9 8 7 - 39

**RHAM 49, NEW BRITAIN 28** NEW BRITIAN (0-1): Adrianna Faienza 2-0-4, Kiatyanna Denmark 1-1-3, Layla Faith Mejia 3-1-8, Tiajah Cooper 2-1-5, Navaeh King 2-0-4, Kaylee Cahlil 1-0-2. RHAM (2-0): Sarah West 5-0-10, Maddy Evans 5-0-11, Ailish Kleinhen 3-2-9, Grace Whitmore 1-0-3, Lauren Fenton 2-1-6, Addison Brown 1-1-3, Kathy Chapman 2-1-5, Linnea Carlson 1-0-2,

8 6 0 14 - 28 10 7 15 17 - 49 NB

**MIDDLETOWN 63, HALL 50** 

Totals 19-5-49.

**STAFFORD 47. BOLTON 40** BOLTON (0-1): Emma Diehl 2-0-5, Niya Islam 6-0-14, Isabel Kenney 1-0-2, Emily Denunzio 1-1-3, Riley Graves 1-0-3, Julia Zimmerman 3-3-9, Makenna Graves

2-0-4. Totals 16-4-40. STAFFORD (1-0): Raina Caro 1-0-3. Camden Smith 4-1-12, Andrea Moulton 2-4-8, Jaelyn Moulton 5-6-20, Drea Oswell 1-0-2, Kalye Gutierrez 1-0-2.

10 14 7 9 - 40 12 15 10 10 - 47

**CLASSICAL 47, UNIVERSITY 19** CLASSICAL (1-0): Jasmine Charlery 5-0-10, Kyeera Hall 3-0-6, Mhia Huay ta-Abreu 2-0-4. Rena Johnson 0-0-0. Kayla Appleby-Foreman 0-0-0, Jazeya Martinez 1-0-2, Annayelah Pusey 1-0-2,

Saraiya Solomon 0-0-0, LeAzjiah Trapp 0-1-1, Summer Tullier 1-0-2, Sequoia Turcotte-Briggs 8-1-20. Totals 21-2-47. UNIVERSITY(0-1): Nvlah Rogers 2-3-7. Ani McRavin 1-0-2, Janyra Foreman 0-0-0, Nyrra Hutchinson 2-0-4, Teava Childs 2-0-4, Solange Bonner 0-0-0, Michele St. Marsh 0-0-0, Rube Malave 0-0-0, Ianna Reid 0-0-0, Dalissa Thomas 1-0-2, Mariyah Lindse 0-0-0. Totals

11 11 17 8 - 47

AFROSPACE 40. WEAVER 13 WEAVER (0-1): Zariah Thomas 1-0-2, Takyra Allerdyce 1-0-2, Nicole Linares , Enaijha Gilbert 1-1-3, Nyla Young

AEROSPACE (1-0): Ariana Murray 1-2-4, Julia McLean 8-0-16, Faith Mitchell 0-2-2, Ashanti McLean 8-1-17, Sammy Johnson 0-1-1. Totals 17-6-40.

83 74 SH

59 37 PC

48 39 C

52 37 SH

90 73 S

66 57 SH

71 62 SH

85 73

Buenos Aires 79 68

Johannesburg 77 57 T

Cairo

Dubai

Dublin

Edinburgh

Hong Kong

Jerusalem

Helsinki

Istanbul

Cancun

66 49

82 73

84 64

52 37 PC

53 47 SH

39 32 C

75 70 PC

San Juan

WORLD

Amsterdam

Tucson

Athens

Bangkok

Barbados

Beijing

Beirut

Berlin

Bermuda

75 63 C

76 42 C

72 29 PC

57 43 C

59 41 PC

Note: J. McLean had a double-double

BACON ACADEMY 62, EAST LYME 30 EAST LYME (0-1): Faith Foltz 1-0-2, Ava Roach 1-0-2, Izzy Pazzaglia 3-2-8, Sachi Todd 3-1-9, Kristin Timpano 1-0-3.

BACON ACADEMY (1-0): Ashley Lizotte 1-2-4, Emily Ferrigno 1-0-2, Valerie Luizzi 5-3-14, Katelyn Novak 1-0-3, Marissa Nudd 5-4-14, Cara Shea 4-2-10,

Emma Mancuso 7-1-15. Totals 24-12-62. 6 7 10 7 - 30 9 16 15 22 - 62

Note: Luizzi had 9 rebounds, 4 assists, Shea had 7 assists, 3 rebounds and Mancuso and Nudd each had 7 rebounds

#### **WEDNESDAY'S HIGH** SCHOOL SCHEDULE

CTC: Cheney Tech at Wilcox Tech, 6p.m. CRAL: Parish Hill at Civic Leadership, 6p.m. Others: Mercy at Holy Cross, 6:30p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### **BOYS HOCKEY**

CCC-North: Simsbury at Farmington Valley, 8p.m. Northwest Catholic at East Catholic, 8:05p.m. CCC-South: E.O. Smith/Tolland at Rocky Hill co-op, 3:10p.m. CCC-Inter: Enfield/East Granby/Stafford at Conard, 7:20p.m.

SCC/SWC: Xavier at West Haven, 6p.m. New Milford at Sheehan, 7:30p.m. Others: Glastonbury at Branford, 3:50 p.m. McMahon/Norwalk at Newington co-op, 8:10p.m. SGWL at North Branford, 8:30p.m.

#### **WRESTLING**

CCC-Inter: Platt at East Hartford, 6p.m. Conard at Windsor, 6p.m. Southington at RHAM, 6p.m. Maloney at Newington, 6p.m. Bristol Central at Glastonbury, 6p.m. Bristol Eastern at Avon, 6p.m. New Britain at E.O. Smith, 6p.m. Berlin at Manchester, 6p.m. Hall at Rocky Hill, 6p.m. Plainville at South Windsor, 6p.m. Simsbury at Enfield, 6p.m. Middletown at Wethersfield, 6p.m. SCC: Amity at Cheshire, 6p.m. Hand at Law, 7p.m. ECC: Fitch at Bacon Academy, 6p.m. Putnam at Windham, 6p.m. Ledyard at Lyman Memorial/Windham Tech, 6:30n.m.

Others: Rockville at Ellis Tech, 6p.m. Guilford at Morgan, 7p.m. **MONDAY'S LATE COLLEGE RESULT** 

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** 

**SACRED HEART 79. COLUMBIA 69 TUESDAY'S COLLEGE RESULTS** 

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** 

STONY BROOK 87, CENTRAL 67 ST. FRANCIS (PA.) AT HARTFORD, LATE MONMOUTH AT YALE, LATE

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL DREXEL 59, YALE 52 CENTRAL AT RUTGERS, LATE **WEDNESDAY'S COLLEGE** 

**SCHEDULE** MEN'S BASKETBALL

Fairfield at Fairleigh Dickinson, 7p.m. **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** 

Southern at Sacred Heart, 2p.m.



Commentators Walt Frazier, left, and Mike Breen talk before a 2019 game in Sacramento, Calif. ROCKY WIDNER/NBAE VIA GETTY

**NBA** NOTES

## **Knicks announcer Frazier** gets sidelined by COVID

New York Daily News

Infected and detected. Knicks analyst Walt "Clyde" Frazier is entering the health and safety protocols and will miss several upcoming MSG Network broadcasts.

Frazier's COVID issue was first reported by Newsday.

For NBA players, entering the health and safety protocols means that they've either tested positive or had an inconclusive test after an exposure.

The Knicks legend is expected to miss at least three local broadcasts after Tuesday night's national game against the Warriors, according to Newsday. Five Nets enter COVID protocols:  $\operatorname{Five}$ 

Nets players have entered the NBA's health and safety protocols and will miss a handful of games starting with Tuesday night's matchup against the Toronto Raptors. The outbreak coincides with the Nets' return from a four-game road trip that featured pit stops in Dallas, Houston, Atlanta and Detroit.

Veteran forward Paul Millsap was the first Net to enter the health and safety protocols when he missed Sunday's game in Detroit against the Pistons for "personal reasons" that were later revealed as his entry into the protocols. The Nets then announced on Tuesday that LaMarcus Aldridge, DeAndre' Bembry, Jevon Carter and James Johnson also each entered the league's health and safety protocols.

Ahead of the Nets' matchup against the Atlanta Hawks, head coach Steve Nash described the challenge of playing basketball amid yet another wave of COVID-19 hitting the United States as the Omicron variant spread across the country.

"We've messaged it to the guys at times."

It's probably going to happen to every team in the league," said Nash. "There's a new variant, it's highly contagious and I think we're going to face this. This is the world we live in. So there's not a lot you can do about it. You can be extra careful and still face this type of thing, so that's just important for everyone to stay aware and understand you can do everything you can to stay safe, but the reality is teams are going through this and it's probably more unusual if a team doesn't go through that this year."

A player who entered the health and safety protocols has either tested positive for COVID-19 or has had an inconclusive test result after coming in close proximity with a person who tested positive for COVID-19.

According to the NBA's health and safety protocols, a player who tests positive for COVID-19 must either quarantine 10 or more days after the first positive result or test negative twice in a 24-hour period through PCR testing.

Kevin Durant has also been listed as questionable against the Raptors with right ankle soreness after hanging 51 points on the Pistons in a game James Harden

Per NBA rules, a team must have eight available players on its roster to play a game. Kyrie Irving is out due to his vaccination status and Joe Harris is out indefinitely after undergoing surgery to remove a bone particle from his left ankle. If Durant also sits, that leaves nine Nets to fend for themselves against the Raptors: James Harden, Patty Mills, Nic Claxton, Blake Griffin, Bruce Brown, and rookies Cam Thomas, David Duke Jr., Day'Ron Sharpe and Kessler Edwards.